THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 4380.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1911.

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LITERATURE

Turkey and its People. By Sir Edwin Pears. (Methuen & Co.)

THE author of this book was living at Constantinople before Abdul-Hamid came to the throne, and he continued to live there till he was privileged to see the artillery-men of Shevket Pasha bombarding the Tashkisla stables at Yildiz on April 24th, 1909. Sir Edwin Pears's residence in Turkey thus more than covered the whole reign of the ex-Sultan, while his position as a leading barrister, as well as correspondent of *The Daily News*, gave him almost unrivalled opportunities for studying the problems of Turkish politics, and especially of Turkish reforms, on the spot. The judgments based upon not far from four decades of experience in the Near East are embodied in this volume. It is written in a grave and sober vein, as befits the organ to which Sir Edwin contributed so efficiently from the time of the celebrated "Bulgarian atrocities" before Abdul-Hamid had assumed his burden of power.

The aim of the book appears to be to take some such general survey as Sir Charles Eliot did of European Turkey eleven years ago. Sir Edwin's field is wider, and he makes no attempt to emulate the brilliant style and luminous generalizations of "Odysseus"; but both books are statesmanlike reviews, not to be classed with the slight though sometimes informing impressions of mere tourists. Sir Edwin Pears writes with the sense of responsibility resting upon one of his great

experience and intimate knowledge of his subject. He is guarded in his judgments, and yet more in his prophecies—if he may be said to offer any; and, on the principle that tout savoir, c'est tout pardonner, he is scrupulously fair and tolerant towards the races and religions that are inextricably commingled in the Turkish Empire. Such caution and benevolence do not tend to brilliance or to highly coloured pictures. On the other hand, they inspire confidence.

For example, recent events in Macedonia and Albania have called forth violent criticism. People are found who say that the Young Turks in their treatment of the Albanians and the manner in which they disarmed the Macedonians showed themselves no better than the Sultan whom they drove from the throne, and that all the bright hopes which were raised by the Constitution of 1908 have been destroyed. It is very easy to jump to conclusions like these; but Sir Edwin Pears, who is a judge of "atrocities," and has not spared the Turkish soldier in the past, measures his words carefully when he writes of these recent doings. He admits the

"executions and brutal punishments which left the impression upon the inhabitants that the new regime was no better than the old. The attempt to disarm the population of Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Albania which followed was not only a failure, but was conducted in a grossly unfair manner."

He admits "a series of blunders"but "in mitigation of the blunder of the Committee" he urges that there was a reactionary outcry in favour of the Sheri'at (or religious law), that the Committee of Union and Progress was more than suspected of infidelity and even atheism, that it included Jews and an avowed Positivist, and that "they had to appease their followers by showing that they were good Moslems, and neither atheists, Jews, nor unbelievers." This is not the voice of 1876, but there is reason in it. Sir Edwin sees the real difficulties of the Young Turks, their inexperience, their crude attachment to impracticable ideals, such as the universal "Turkification" and centralization of the Empire; and the fact that their ideas are far ahead of the intelligence and the desires of the general population.

"We are all hoping, and happily have some justification for the hope, that since July, 1908, the Turk has abandoned his ancient mode of government...Massacres would now, I firmly believe, be condemned by the heads of the Ulema as well as by the constitutional ministers....At the same time, it is not well to overlook facts. Three foul massacres are yet within the memory of middle-aged men."

It is not exactly an enthusiastic view, and the author seems to derive more hope from his observation that the Turkish population is decreasing, while the Christians grow apace. He is no believer in Panislamism as a political danger, and holds that it was used by the ex-Sultan as a bugbear to frighten Europe; but as a

genuine religious movement of a missionary character he thinks that "in Africa it may give considerable trouble." Since religion and politics are closely related in Turkey, and people class themselves by creed rather than by race, as Sir Edwin points out, we do not see how a genuine religious movement" towards Panislamism can be kept clear of politics; but we are not disposed to believe that any general and aggressive union of Islamic sects is within sight as yet. Sir Edwin sees progress in Turkey, even among the Turks, and he rightly dates all reforms from the energetic work of Lord Stratford de Redeliffe, to whom the Christians of Turkey, at least, owe whatever amelioration in their status has taken place. He believes that "modernism" is doing its critical work even in Islam, and he concludes: "To be not altogether satisfied with dogmatic teaching and to be able to examine it is in itself progress, and the best Turkish thought has arrived at that stage.

Space fails even to refer to numerous interesting subjects discussed in this suggestive and thoughtful book. One of the most important is the desire for education now displayed by a not inconsiderable number of Turkish women, especially in the capital. Sir Edwin gives a very hopeful account of this growing movement. Another highly attractive subject, which he lightly touches on, is the existence of many Crypto-Christian sects and survivals of Mithraic and far older religious systems in Asia Minor, a field of research which promises singularly curious results to future inquirers who may follow in Sir William Ramsay's steps. The survival of ancient Greek rites in the Orthodox Church—as when the priest of St. Nicholas in Amorgos used the knucklebones, just as the priest of Poseidon did in the time of Herodotus, to divine the direction of the wind for sea-captains-is another subject which has attracted Sir Edwin Pears's attention. He has words of unstinted praise for the educational work of American missionaries in Turkey, though he remarks that probably more Christians become Moslems than the reverse; but he deprecates all attempts to discredit Anglican orders by co-ordinating them with those of the "Orthodox" (the Greek) or the "Ancient" (Nestorian) Church. Of the Eastern Churches, indeed, he holds no very exalted opinion; but in this he is not exceptional. If there is not very much in the book that is new to students of the subject, its statements are throughout carefully considered.

There are some curious slips which remind us that newspaper correspondents are not in the habit of seeing proofs of their articles. We are told that "Plevna was captured by the *Turks* after a defence by Ghazi Osman," and that the Hegira or Mohammedan era dates from A.D. 632. Twice we learn that "the great Paulician heresy of the third century...extended from America to Ireland." Paulicianism is not to be traced in the third century, and least of all in Ireland. Perhaps Sir Edwin Pears confused this heresy with

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Pelagianism, but even this did not appear till about 400 A.D. We read that the famous Arabian sect of Wahhabis owed its name to "a shekh named Wahab," which is one of the ninety-nine names of God, and could not be assumed by a man. The founder was more modestly named 'Abd-al-Wahhab. Laurence (here spelt "Lawrance") Oliphant, though a member of Parliament for two or three years was never "an under-secretary of State." Sir E. Pears was perhaps thinking of the private secretaryship to Lord Elgin. To say that the Turks have " no literature" is wrong. It may not be a very original literature, but it is large and varied. Such spellings as "Afioum" "Kara Hissar" and "Kaimakan" may be due to the wish to avoid pedantry, but "Hashash," "Behr-ed-din," "Yenghis," "Yezijis," "Bektakis," "Mehlevis," "Hadjis" (for Hadis, Arabic Hadith), "John Welsey," and "personal statute" are misprints. The Index, whilst appearance of the state of the ing full, discloses many omissions; it does not include the name even of Shevket or Lavard.

An Imperial Victim: Marie Louise, Archduchess of Austria, Empress of the French, and Duchess of Parma. By Mrs. Edith E. Cuthell. 2 vols. (Stanley Paul & Co.)

THE title which Mrs. Cuthell has chosen for her biography of the Empress Marie Louise aptly sums up her life-history; and there can be little doubt that the author has found the solution of a somewhat superficial enigma. But it would be truer to say that the key is to be sought for in the character of the Hapsburg house rather than in that of a single member of it, Marie Louise's father, who did not begin a new tradition, but carried on an old one. Such conflict as there was in the woman's nature-and it was, except at moments, probably never very strenuous — was between the habit of passive obedience to the head of the house and the instinct of human expansion. Lamartine was doubtless right when he said that Marie Louise's "crime" was her inability "to make believe" either in greatness or adversity. "They wanted her to play a part. The actress failed, but the woman remained.

On the whole, perhaps, these two large volumes are justified. For if their subject was not a great actor, she at least played on a great stage and figured in some important scenes. The author has a fair grasp of the drama and the power of interesting readers, though she is careless about details and has some serious faults of style. Whe seldom vouchsafes a reference, and sometimes does not even name the source from which she is quoting. But absence of prejudice is much in a popular writer, even if it be balanced by instability of judgment. When all sides are shown, the reader can judge for himself. If he will be content with unbiased narrative, and is not over-critical as to English, he will find this a tolerably readable book

"M. Bonaparte's" conformity to Mohammedanism when in Egypt shocked the child-mind of his future bride, as his treatment of the Pope pained her when a wife. But there is little trace of any estrangement between them in these matters. That she dreaded the marriage with him is clear; but it is also plain that she saw it coming and made up her mind to it. As Metternich said, our princesses are so little accustomed to choosing their husbands with regard to their own feelings," and Madame l'Archiduchesse was "such a well-brought-up and good child." Ignorant as she was of politics, she had but few illusions; yet so far was Marie Louise from thinking that she had been "coerced" into the marriage, that in after years she told her friend Lady Burghersh that she had been reconciled to it by the dread of something worse—a match with her stepmother's brother, the exiled Este Duke of Modena.

Nor did the most malignant Bourbon or Hapsburg assert that Napoleon did not treat his second wife with consideration as well as affection. She herself ridiculed to Metternich "the general opinion" that she was "enduring fearful sufferings," and even went so far as to assert that she was not afraid of her husband, though this, it is clear from later utterances, was not her considered and normal view. But it is not at all unlikely that her opinion that "he is half afraid of me" may not also have been true. Napoleon may, as the author says, have "liked" the Archduchess in his Empress, but in her presence he was not entirely without the feelings of the parvenu, as little things showed.

As for the great man himself, never once did he vent his anger at her father's conduct upon the daughter's head. It is tolerably clear that he himself shared her touching belief in the strength of the family tie that he had formed, notwithstanding his just estimate of Francis as the man who was always of the opinion of the last person who had talked to him. Even in Elba Napoleon continued to cherish the illusion. It was one of his few grave miscalculations, this reliance upon his Hapsburg marriage. Metternich was more than a match for him on this ground.

But apart from Napoleon's value for Marie Louise as a political symbol and asset, it is certain that he had a real personal attachment to her, and that not merely as the mother of his idolized heir. There is no reason to doubt the sincerity of his words to Count Bubna in 1813: "Indeed, I am not to be accused of having too loving a heart; but if I love anything in the world, it is my wife." His feeling for Marie Louise was deeper and purer than his earlier ardent passion for Joséphine. That he understood her better must, however, be doubted. Respecting her love of order and family feeling, he underrated the weakness of her character; and he was not prepared for Neipperg.

Bonapartists have been severe upon Marie Louise for her conduct in 1814. But it is manifest that the Empress wished up to the last to play the part of peacemaker, and that she would not have left Paris unless she had been convinced, through the letter which Joseph produced at the Council, that it was Napoleon's own wish. Moreover she did her best to join her husband at Fontainebleau. A heroine might have accomplished this and have insisted on going to Elba; but Marie Louise was not made in such a mould. Up to this point she cannot be blamed.

Now, however, comes upon the scene a new actor; and the Empress henceforth, if she may still be pitied, may also be blamed. She was young and pliable; Neipperg, despite his mature age and one eye, was captivating, and, with his experience in intrigue and his musical accomplishments, just the man for Metternich's purpose, which was to kill Bonapartism by separating Napoleon from his wife and child. There does not seem to be any evidence for the author's conjecture that suspicions of the exile's fidelity, based on reports of the Countess Walewska's visit to Elba, may have influenced Marie Louise's conduct; the private letters she quotes do, however, show that she did not abandon Napoleon altogether without feeling some qualms. But the combined action upon her weak nature of a charming companion and a tongue that could plead legitimism persuasively was too strong to be resisted; and she gave the promise to her father which was a bar to all future intercourse. Even the disinheriting of her son and Bourbon breaches of faith could not shake her resolution: she would not consent to a divorce, and that was all. She even allowed herself to be separated from the young Napoleon, for whom her affection would seem to have been fitful.

Much of the second volume is taken up with the part played by Marie Louise's principality of Parma in Italian revolutionary politics. Due credit is awarded to Marie Louise and Neipperg for their resistance to Hapsburg pressure, and to their comparative elemency and encouragement of public works. No theory is advanced as to the suppression of the fact of their marriage, though there were children. After Neipperg's death came the third marriage and a reversion to absolutism. The specific assertion by the tenor Lecomte of his intrigue with the middle-aged princess of Parma is summarily dismissed as an uncorroborated canard.

There are not many inaccuracies in the book apart from misspellings. Lannes was killed, not at Wagram (i. 87), but at Essling, as is stated a few pages later. Prussia was not a party to the secret treaty against Russia of January 15th, 1814 (ii. 63), though she had for a time acted with Austria at the Vienna Congress in the Saxon-Polish affair, the account of which is misleading. "Saxony" (ii. 135) was not given to Victor Emmanuel: presumably Sardinia is meant. To call Cardinal Maury, the eloquent royalist speaker in the Constituent Assembly,

"the old Republican" (i. 167), is somewhat strange. There are, unfortunately, several misprints and misspellings of names. The faithful secretary Méneval, whose letters are freely quoted, has throughout an extra accent; and we get "Saxe - Teschau" (Saxe - Teschen), "Glück," "Romford" (the man of science), "risorgamento," "Kutzabue," and "Lammennais." Virgil did not write "fassam extendere factis" (ii. 110). "Parantibus" instead of parentibus appears in the transcribed inscription on Manfredini's Taro medal (ib. 243); and "represso" on a previous page, relating to the river, should be repressus. There are also two misprints in the last Latin sentence of the litany said at Marie Louise's death-bed.

Mrs. Cuthell is too fond of slang. Marie Louise is made in one passage to write of "ructions," and her mother to employ the vulgarism "I shall give her beans"; whilst people continually have "confabs." "Emphasis" is not the English equivalent of emphase.

As a set-off against these defects, the book has some good illustrations.

The Poems of Percy Bysshe Shelley.
Edited by C. D. Locock, With an
Introduction by A. Clutton - Brock.
2 vols. (Methuen & Co.)

This new edition of Shelley's poetry has several interesting features, and not least among them is Mr. Clutton - Brock's Introduction. It is devoted to an estimate of the quality and significance of Shelley's work as a poet—to a reversal of Matthew Arnold's verdict upon him. Shelley, Mr. Clutton-Brock in effect tells us, was a beautiful and an effectual angel. He makes, in the course of his exposition, some very illuminating remarks; the sentences in which he calls attention to the momentum of Shelley's verse, and those-they are too few-in which he touches upon Shelley's sympathy with the spirit of nature, are full of insight and discrimination. "Shelley," he says, "in his happiest vein, is a landscape poet of a new kind. He shows us the whole universe subject to a rhythm and movement imposed upon it by the religious ardour of his own mind." And the main line of his argument-which is to the effect that a work of art, since its purpose is to convey emotion, must be judged by the quality of the emotion it conveys-is, we think, incontrovertible, as well as excellently put. Yet, in his application of the argument to Shelley's case, he does not satisfy us, and his general rehabilitation of Shelley as in essence a religious poet is based, surely, on a misunderstanding.

Splendid as was Shelley's natural poetic endowment, Mr. Clutton-Brock overrates, we feel sure, the significance, the scale, of his achievement. He writes, for example, that Shelley's blank verse "never becomes prosaic," that the music in

'Prometheus' "never flags," that "other great poets of his time are often prosaic and trivial; Shelley never." Few will accept these judgments, and some will suspect that a certain insusceptibility to Shelley's periods of bathos is connected with Mr. Clutton-Brock's docile acceptance of his raptures. The lovely song in 'Prometheus,' 'Life of Life,' has the influence of a charm; but Mr. Clutton-Brock conjures with it excessively. Who, turning to it in its place in the poem, can read the opening stanza of the scene,

On the brink of the night and the morning My coursers are wont to respire,

without recognizing in Shelley precisely that prosaic and trivial element, the presence of which Mr. Clutton-Brock denies—the element of verbiage, in short—and without wondering whether something of the taint has not descended upon the immortal song itself?

Thy smiles, before they dwindle, Make the cold air fire,—then screen them In those looks......

Are these, after all, the words of a song of passion for perfection, the "expression of a philosophy become faith?" We can hardly-and this is our second pointcall Shelley a religious poet without bringing first something like sleight of hand to bear upon the meaning of the word "religion." It was the reverse side of Shelley's pure goodness of will, of his inability to conceive an evil purpose or to recognize evil in himself, that he was totally unamenable to discipline. But for the ingenuous laxity of his nature, his mastery of language and of verse might have been incomparably greater. And similarly his emotions become more and more abstract in their bearing, not because life has been subdued under him, as a saint subdues it, but because, by refusing to be subdued, it has proved itself unworthy of his attention. This surely is the reason why his expression of passion loses value, and can fairly be called ineffectual in spite of its luminousness and beauty. In its detachment from life it has a quality of emptiness. The angel, in short, is beating his wings in the void, removed from us not by what he has renounced, but by what he has rejected.

Mr. Locock's task in the collation of the MSS. and of the texts of previous editions has been performed with scholarly thoroughness and exactitude, and in his editorial judgment he has the pleasant faculty of combining critical acumen with common sense. He is particularly happy as an interpreter of disputed passages, partly perhaps because he avoids a snare which has been fatal to some of Shelley's earlier commentators, the temptation to show himself more poetical than the poet. On questions of prosody he is sometimes dogmatic without being convincing, and we doubt whether his principles or his instinct always guide him aright in the settlement of textual difficulties. There can, after all, be no positive settlement of difficulties which Shelley himself did not succeed in settling; and when the poet was, as he was so often, of two minds about a passage, the casting vote should surely be allowed to the reading which tradition or the best judgment of the poet's readers has established. Take, for ex ample, the famous 'Hymn of Pan': Mr. Locock informs us that in the line

Listening to my sweet pipings

the word "to" has been struck out, in the Bodleian MS., at both places where the line occurs; and he actually receives the line, so amputated, into his text. take, again, the 'Indian Serenade.' text of this is full of uncertainties; but does not the evidence make it likely that the uncertainties are uncertainties of Shelley's mind? If this is so, the duty of an editor, we hold, is to determine which of the variants has found favour. For the memory of a poem and the associations which cling even about its most insignificant turns of phrase soon become identified with the spirit of the piece and seem to form part of its poetic value. The readings

As I must die on thine

and

O press it close to thine again

may be as good poetically as those which have been more usually accepted; but they cannot seem so. The accepted reading, merely because it is accepted, becomes endowed with the magic of its surroundings, and its displacement is almost like an act of violence.

NEW NOVELS.

The Outcry. By Henry James. (Methuen & Co.)

Mr. James's new novel deals with somewhat the same theme as his admirable 'Spoils of Poynton,' but 'The Outery' is altogether a smaller and slighter sketch. Not a whole temple of treasures is involved this time, but only one or two individual paintings coveted by a collector of aspirations so magnificent that he has "no use for a ten-thousand picture... a picture of that rank is not what I'm after." Between this thinker in millions and Lord Theign, owner of two glorious pictures and of a favourite daughter loaded with gambling debts, the shuttle of the story travels to and fro, now hindered, now hastened, by the protests of Lord Theign's younger daughter, by the discoveries of an eager young artcritic, and by the "outcry" of the British press. Finally, a most ingenious conclusion, in the nature of a stalemate, leaves both men defeated and the jeopardized picture safely out of their hands.

The characters and the situations are touched-in with all Mr. James's clusive but unerring skill; the planes, the proportions, the perspectives, so often ruthlessly jumbled by inferior writers, are refreshingly right; but the dialogue is too frequently all wrong. In the course of years Mr. James has composed or acquired a language peculiar to himself and full of unusual constructions. For

narrative purposes it serves him excellently, but in dialogue it strikes verisimilitude dead. Not even those of us who are Mr. James's devoted admirers can believe that an angry father ever addressed his daughter in this fashion:—

"Letting alone gallant John himself, most amiable of men, about whose merits and whose claims you appear to have pretended to agree with me just that you might, when he presumed, poor chap, ardently to urge them, deal him with the more cruel effect that calculated blow on the mouth."

The Fruitful Vine. By Robert Hichens. (Fisher Unwin.)

This detailed study of a childless wife might be accounted an inquiry into the psychology of femininity in contra-distinction to the psychology of the feminist, were it not that we are inclined to view the principal character and her environment of loose-living Italian society as abnormal. Some of the secondary characters are more naturally drawn, notably the slightly eccentric, but wholly delightful friend whose life has been broadened and deepened by loss of husband and children.

Of the 570 pages which compose the book a large proportion are not relevant to the action, and may in fact be said to retard it, thereby diverting the interest too decidedly to what in themselves are sufficiently attractive descriptions of Italian life and scenery. Mr. Hichens has so important a place of his own in literature that we regret anything which tends to confuse his writings with those of another author whose story of Rome appealed to a very wide public in its dramatized form.

There is evidence that the author's usual care for the niceties of writing has become jaded during the progress of the work, and some looseness in characterization is also evident. We have known publishers who, apparently valuing quantity more than quality, have returned manuscripts to authors for the purpose of having them lengthened; here is a case where the publisher might well have suggested some excision.

Good Boy Seldom. By Oliver Onions. (Methuen & Co.)

It is obvious that Mr. Onions has desired to write a biting satire of certain phases of modern life, and he has succeeded in giving a very varied presentment of it. Business methods, financiers, theatrical folk, Bohemians, provincial Evangelicals—all pass under his lash. In particular he has an admirably vivid portrait of a musical-comedy star which is merciless in its severity and truth. But Mr. Onions would have probably achieved a better result had he used more selection. He pours into these pages the vials of his wrath without much order. It is often difficult to follow the narrative, and in his scorn he sometimes loses touch with

verisimilitude. The picture of the advertising agent is as successful as that of the actress, and one gets the unpleasing impression that all people are more or less akin to these samples. It is a mistaken impression, yet it makes for a nasty savour. However, there is no denying the force of the author's invective, nor the strength of his equipment. He has had as yet too little recognition. We hope this bold bid for it will be successful.

The Twymans. By Henry Newbolt. (Blackwood & Sons.)

It is a refined and cultured atmosphere which envelopes Mr. Newbolt's story. We feel in reading it that it would be impossible for him to deal in horrid characters. All here are sympathetic, and even a prospective lawsuit is conducted on the most amicable terms. Mr. Newbolt is not a forcible writer; the delicacies and subtleties of life engage him. So far as plot goes, this tale hangs very lightly together; it is as simple and unaffected and honest as the love-interest. The characterization is delicate and full of nuances. One can see how much the author is, or has been, exercised as to the problem of education, and one easily guesses how his own sympathies go out. Downton College is discoverable, of course, for was it not there that Mr. Newbolt, as well as Sir A. Quiller-Couch, to whom he dedicates his book, was a schoolboy?

Vagabond City. By Winifred Boggs. (Putnam's Sons.)

The motive of 'Vagabond City' is "the curse of Wanderlust." Michael Talbot is a "vagabond" with genius. Editors importune him with offers of 2,000l. a year; but the Wanderlust prevents him from staying anywhere long enough to draw more than six months' salary. Yet he cannot help making money (quickly squandered), for he has "financial friends" who positively run to him with "good things." This wild and erring genius, after ten years in Russia, Egypt, &c., returns to find that Muriel Dalton still treasures her half of the sixpence which, long before, they had broken and shared as a pledge of affection; so he marries her. Muriel's ideal is a villa in the suburbs. She wishes Michael were an author instead of a journalist. Also there is another woman, the Elf, a great artist, with strange hair, who paints 'The Shadow,' because she wants to show "how many and little and foolish are creeds." The story is interesting, and so skilfully told that we forget the limelight.

A King of Vagabonds. By Beth Ellis. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE "Flemish counterfeit" does not seem at first sight a sympathetic hero for an historical novel. The author adopts

the view that Perkin Warbeck was at any rate the illegitimate son of Edward IV., and certainly the theory makes his temporary success more intelligible. The narrative is kept pretty close to the lines of historical fact, and we have detected no slips. except that Lady Katharine Gordon is credited with a brother Archie, whom wefail to recognize; that "Huntley" has a superfluous e; and that Sir Richard Brackenbury's name is used alternately with Sir Robert's. The chronicle is somewhat verbose; but the vagabondage and the royalty of the light nature of Richard are graphically described, and the proud purity and conscientious self-torture of the Gordon "White Rose," destined to be relieved by union with a loyal and gallant mate who has suffered, like herself, in selfrespect, give psychological interest to this tale of action.

TRAVEL.

M. PIERRE PONAFIDINE, the Russian Consul-General at Constantinople, has had a long and varied experience in Persia as well as Turkey, and we expected many interesting revelations—not of a political nature, of course—in Life in the Moslem East (Hodder & Stoughton), which has been translated by his wife. It is disappointing to find scarcely anything that had not been pre-viously described. The chief exception is the description of the law and its administration in Persia as viewed by the author when Consul at Meshed. English readers will hardly believe that such a state of things can exist in the twentieth century, even in the "Land of the Lion and Sun. For the rest, M. Ponafidine's account of life in Bagdad, a voyage to Bombay, a trip in the desert, cholera epidemics, and forth, is much like other accounts, only not so graphic as some. We feel all through that the impressions are those of a man who never really got inside the reserve of the

There is, however, an interesting chapter on Arab horses, in which the writer says that the pedigree of a mare is the one thing on which an Arab's word can be "invariably" trusted. So much importance do the Bedouins attach to this subject that the tale is recorded of an Arab, mortally wounded in an affray, who "called to the victorious party to come back and hear before he died the genealogy of his mare that they had taken." We may also draw attention to the very pessimistic account of the life of the women of Persia, and the system of temporary marriages and facile repudiation.

Unfortunately, there are a good many small mistakes in the book. The "pontifia maximus" of the Yezidis, and the "jurisconsuls" of Persia, ought not to have been left uncorrected. The names of "Abdul-Kadir Delani" and "Ahmed Heach" at Bagdad (the founders of the "Howling" and "Whirling" dervishes respectively), "Abdul Gelian" and "Dgelal-ed-Khunkeir," the Caliph "Unavia I.," the commander-inchief "Sipchraler," and the Prophet's battle of "Ukhurdi," will be recognized only by Orientalists. The "late French consul De Sarce" refers to M. de Sarzec. Abu-Bekr was certainly not the "son-in-law" of the Prophet; and it is unreasonable to complain that Mohammed "rather neglected" his first wife Khadija for his new bride Ayesha, when Khadija had been dead several years before

he had anything to do with the younger We can assure M. Ponafidine that the lady. We can assure M. Ponafidine that the so-called "Tomb of Zobeide" does not date from the time of Haroun-al-Rashid, as he supposes; and, let him spell "Silselit-ul-evlia-Ullah" how he will, nothing can make it mean "the chain of the sacred gods."

Apart from defects of scholarship, the difficulty of distinguishing between facts actually observed by the author and information derived from unnamed books or persons detracts from the value of the book as an authoritative description of life in the modern East. The illustrations are good, but there is no index.

A new book on sport, travel, and adventure by Agnes Herbert, whose records of the trips of 'Two Dianas in Somaliland' and in Alaska proved so attractive, must receive a warm welcome. Nor need readers of Casuals in the Caucasus: the Diary of a Sporting Holiday (John Lane) fear disappointment; for they meet again the two ladies, charming as ever, with a new escort

and in fresh country.

The scene of their exploits was arrived at by way of Gibraltar, whence the expedi-tion was conveyed to Batoum in a friend's yacht. Naturally, there were experiences on the way, and they do not lose in the telling; but these are not all, for there is a geographical and ethnological description of the Caucasus and its peoples, as well as the story of the route to the hunting grounds, which together fill 118 out of 331

Arrived at the spot, the party lost no time in getting to work, a beginning being made by stalking the tûr (Capra cylindricornis) of the Eastern Caucasus. It is throughout called an ibex, which is a goat; but the excellent illustration (p. 154) shows an animal much more like a sheep both in horns and coat. The author has noticed this, for she likens the horns to those of the bharal (O. nahura).

Gentlemen of the rank of Prince seem to abound, and from one of them and from two Russians the party met with much hospitality, the game varying from bears and stags to snipe. The descriptions of the different episodes are excellent: the bear bearded in his den, and the ollen or great stag stalked in the forest :-

"For half an hour my stag and I played this silence game, and then, because I had no designs on his life, and only asked to see him, I commenced working my way round towards the end of the screen of ash, which, I could see, thinned as the glade hollowed.

"As I looked about me and my eyes grew used to the glare and brightness of the sun falling aslant across the pinewood paths, I caught a glimpse of a grey wraith gliding through the green, a beautiful picture of repressed action, every nerve taut, horns laid well back. So—stealthily—he passed."

The author describes her book as a riot of random jottings; but whilst, in a sense, that may pass on account of its source, from any one else the verdict would be unfair. For there is no question of the author's literary ability, nor of want of brightness and humour in her work. The illustrations and general get-up deserve recognition.

Readers who rememberas all will who read it—Mr. E. J. Banfield's 'The Confessions of a Beachcomber' will welcome My Tropic Isle (Fisher Unwin). Its title will be recommendation enough. The reviewer has found the volume one of the most delightful of recent years. He opened it in some fear lest the success of the "Beachcomber" might have forced on the production of uninspired work, but there is no hint

of anything of the sort in the present volume. The schools may have lost a good naturalist in Mr. Banfield; but the reading public has gained one. There is in his work much of the intimate and literary charm of Gissing's 'Private Papers of Henry Rycroft,' plus a great deal else, in the shape of fascinating studies of bird and fish life, of scenery, and of all the beautiful and interesting subjects which Nature has to offer to the cultured recluse of scholarly habit and scientific bent, in a tropical or sub-tropical island off the coast of Queensland. We repeat that it is a most delightful work. More, it is full of facts curious and interesting, out-ofthe way knowledge, and unusual information.

Nor is purely human interest lacking. The chapter headed 'The Recluse of Rattlesnake' is one of the most tragical of "human documents," the truth of which is stamped upon each page of it. There are many other character-sketches, less tragical, but equally faithful and graphic. We can hardly conceive that such a book will lack readers and admirers. We hope Mr. Banfield will continue to write; but we urge him to use every kind of restraint. Let him insist that his pen shall obey, and never seek, inspira-

Ever since the middle of the eighteenth century the Wye Valley has been a favourite holiday haunt. The poet Gray did the journey from Ross to Monmouth by water, and described the banks of the Wye as "a succession of nameless beauties." A little A little later Lord North took the same trip with his family. Nowadays it is the descendants of the colonists whom North's royal master alienated who are among the river's most enthusiastic admirers. Mr. Edward Hutton, who has turned from studies of Italian scenes to compose A Book of the Wye (Methuen), does not think the Western stream comparable to the Thames for pleasure or but adds that he will not be surbeauty," but adds that he will not be sur-prised if he is almost alone in that opinion. The present writer would venture to dispute such a sweeping judgment. The Thames can boast of breadth, and offers easy travelling-things not to be expected of the Wye; but it has become too suburb-anized. You must push far up stream to escape villa or boathouse, and its most charming reaches are those most crowded with the mob of fashion; whereas the Wye is still unspoilt.

Nor need the western river fear comparison with Thames in respect of either beauty of surroundings or the pleasure it can afford. Beginning amid lofty Welsh hills, the Wye in its lower valley constantly varies its scenery between rich meadowland and wooded heights and rocks; while Rosemary Topping and the Coldwell Rocks and Symonds Yat and the Wyndcliff can hold their own against anything the Londoners' stream has to show in the way of sylvan loveliness. There are prospects, too, for those who climb these summits, which the Thames cannot hope to rival; and if the one river has its Windsor Castle intact, the Wye can rely upon its ruined castles of Goodrich and Raglan and Chepstow, and still more upon the superb pile of Tintern. As for excitement and adventure, boating on the Wye can provide this in abundance. There is no monotony about its river journeys, as, thanks to the locks, there is often enough on the Thames. Its shallows and runs want very careful management, especially during such a dry summer as that to which we have lately said good-bye, and scullers who propose going any con-siderable distance down stream would do well to take a pilot on board-one of the

Ross boatmen for preference, whose skill Mr. Hutton rightly commends.

But though the author expresses a preference for the Thames, he does full justice to the charm of the Wye and the spell which the restful beauty of the valley exercises over visitors who remain any length of time in its atmosphere. He admires the higher reaches more, perhaps because he somewhat hurried over the boating part of his tour. He has missed nothing, however, of interest on Wye banks, and gives in detail the history of the towns, churches, castles, manor-houses, and relics of the past which are within access of the stream.

While in most respects Mr. Hutton proves helpful and sympathetic guide, and his advice should be taken in all matters relating to navigation of the Wye, he has a weakness which is likely to give offence to many of his readers: he insists on dragging his religion and his politics into the book. A Catholic in faith, he inveighs against the vandalism of the Reformation, and speaks of the present cathedral clergy in a way that will give pain to some readers. A Conservative in politics, he cannot refrain from girding at Sir William Harcourt's Death Duties Budget or from describing England's unity as "at the describing England's unity as "at the mercy of a bitter class hatred fanned for their own advancement by wicked men." Such contentious matters should be excluded from a book of travel.

Yet it would be ungenerous to end on a note of complaint. Mr. Hutton's bias, religious or political, betrays itself only on occasions, and, these occasions discounted, his volume should give pleasure to such readers as have themselves covered the ground, and should send others there next summer. How graphically the latest historian of the Wye can picture a scene of beauty will be clear to those who turn to his account of the view from the top of Plinlimmon, or, again, of the prospect obtained after a climb of the Windcliff, a hill that lies between Tintern and Chepstow.

Mr. Hutton's book is supplied with twenty illustrations in colours, for which Mr. A. R. Quinton is responsible. The artist, who aims at prettiness rather than personal impressions, is perhaps seen at his best in his pictures of Wilton Bridge, Ross, as it appears from the river meadows, the Wye near its source, and the Windcliff. He is not particularly successful with Tintern Abbey, which somehow does not seem to lend itself to coloured representation.

On the Wallaby through Victoria, by E. M. Clowes (Heinemann), is an exceptionally good book about life in Melbourne, and, to a lesser extent, in the State of Victoria generally. The author's record of her experience of eight years spent in Aus-The author's record of tralia shows her to be a plucky and courageous woman, resourceful, and possessed of a singularly bright and volatile kind of energy. As a woman's impression of Australian life, As a woman's impression of Australian life, we should compare it with that other admirable woman's book, 'We of the Never-Never,' though its subject is as different as it well could be, for the present volume deals mainly with Melbourne, and only cursorily with the country-side. Wives and mothers and young women who contemplate migration to the far southern outpost of the Empire will be delighted with 'On the Empire will be delighted with 'On the Wallaby,' because, while it does not justify its title, in so far as that suggests bush life, it does convey, almost better than any other volume yet published, information of the sort which is most valuable to women as to the personal and domestic aspects of daily life in Australia. It also contains some

shrewd reflections upon the institutions, tendencies, and politics of the island continent. Mrs. Clowes's views are those not only of a resident in the country, but also of a genuine worker, who has really identified herself with the community of which she forms a part. Her style of writing is bright and devoid of affectation.

It is safe to say that the real Holland is but little known to the tourist, unless he be more farseeing and observant than the majority of his kind. And even then it is doubtful whether he will be able to distindoubtful whether he will be able to distinguish the spurious from the genuine, for Holland, in common with other countries much frequented by tourists, knows the weaknesses of these flying visitors, and is ready to pander to them. Readers of Mr. D. S. Meldrum's book, Home Life in Holland Mathematical Property and they have (Methuen), however, will, when they have turned the last page, no longer have to complain of any lack of knowledge, for the author goes to the very heart of things, and, painting on a wide canvas, fills every niche and corner of it with a crowd of minute details, worked in with patience and wonderful thoroughness. He shows us, step by step, and under all conditions of life, whether in town or country, how the excessive "modern-ness" of Holland exists side by side with her antiquity, and how its attributes are only logical outcome of certain ancient survivals which appeal strongly to the fancy of the passing stranger. Particularly good are his chapters on 'The Dutch Workman' and 'The Educational Ideal'; and also his study of the influence of the Churches on Dutch public life. He shows himself, too, a shrewd judge of character; his picture of the Amsterdam policeman, for example, and of Dutch officialdom generally, is delightful.

Mr. Meldrum speaks with authority. You know all the time you are reading him that he is laying before you solid facts, verified, as we have said, in detail. And yet his book is not dull—far from it. Moreover, it contains a number of little descriptive touches, deftly done, which stand out like splashes of vivid colour on his somewhat sober-toned canvas. The author goes to bed after a day spent in a characteristic Dutch household, and

"through the open windows, with the night scents from the trees, come the voices of dream children: Qui prendrez vous Badaviere—viere—vo! The square is silent. Then konkd·k says a bucket set down on the klinkers, and the pump answers gulp-t-t-t!"

This and many other delightful touches are distinct aids in the pleasant task of absorbing the mass of interesting information which Mr. Meldrum has collected for our benefit, and, we may add, our entertainment.

Although written by an American for Americans, Brittany and the Bretons, by Mr. George Wharton Edwards (Herbert & Daniel), will be found by the English reader a very interesting book. The author brings a fresh mind to Brittany, and though some of his statements are amazing—almost as amazing as his want of information in other respects—there is a certain simplicity which is not without its charm. The simplicity we refer to is that of mental attitude, not of style, for he describes the Pont de Saint Servan as "one of the most unique bridges in the world." The author has the gift of telling a story, however, with an eye to effect. Much the same qualities appear in the three-score drawings and colour-prints which illustrate the work. There is an eye for the picturesque, the effective, and for the

details which interest the man of taste, as well as a feeling for architecture. There production is good and the "process" not unpleasant, yet there is a certain absence of distinction which militates against any real artistic pleasure: the drawings are rather documents than revelations of feeling.

Mr. Edwards has apparently lived long enough in Brittany to learn something of the character and charm of the inhabitants, but not long enough to sympathize with and understand the defects of their qualities. Their primitive household arrangements seem to worry him: what would he have felt if he had travelled there thirty years ago, even in their chief towns? Breton, by the way, is not Gaelic, but a sister language For the sake of the general reader it would have been better to choose one spelling of Breton names and stick to it, and not to put an illustration of the 'Tomb of St. Yves a churchyard in proximity to a statement in the text that it is in the church. The little appendix on Pardons, with a list of their dates, and on Breton iconography, will be appreciated. The book is tastefully printed and got-up, and is a valuable souvenir of one of the most characteristic and interesting provinces of France.

There is no pretence about The Surgeon's Log: being Impressions of the Far East, by J. Johnston Abraham (Chapman & Hall); it is what it purports to be. A surgeon in England finds it necessary for his health that he should give up all strenuous work, and by good luck succeeds in securing a berth as doctor on board a trading steamer bound, with cargo and without passengers, for the Eastern tropics. The surgeon's experiences on the voyage form the matter of his book, and a very wholesome, entertaining, unconventional book of travel it is, smacking strongly of the sea, and of the sailor town of tropical ports. After all his wanderings—in the Indian Ocean, Japan, Java, and elsewhere east of Suez—the surgeon returns to England, a new man in more than the physical sense. In any case, his voyage was worth undertaking, if only by reason of the excellent book it has produced.

Part of the unsatisfactoriness of the text, and also of the numerous illustrations, of The Grand Canyon of Arizona, by Mr. George Wharton James (Fisher Unwin), is due to the subject itself. In some places the Grand Canyon is twelve miles from bank to bank, or, as the local term is, from rim to rim, of the Colorado River; and the rims are about a mile higher than the river bed. The sight deceives the camera, and baffles word-description. In spite of its short-comings—such as the exploitation of business interests, the advertising not only of human industries, but also of natural scenery—the book is a trustworthy and comprehensive guide. Mr. James speaks from long acquaintance and first-hand knowledge, and is fortified by the conviction that his theme is "the Mecca of the travelling world."

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

With the appearance of Miscellaneous Papers (2 vols.), the thirty-six volumes of the "Dickens Centenary Edition" (Chapman & Hall) are completed. The more or less fugitive journalistic essays from The Examiner, The Morning Chronicle, The Daily News, Household Words, and All the Year Round have their principal significance,

as Mr. B. W. Matz points out in his Introduction, in the light they throw on Dickens the man, his characteristic views and idealsa light which neither the novels nor Forster entirely supply. The plays and poems can in these days appeal only to those whose discernment is dimmed by enthusiasm. When all is said, 'The Ivy Green' is, its fame notwithstanding, a stilted composi-tion; and it is no disparagement to the ultimate literary stature of Dickens to deny him pre-eminence either as poet or play-wright. Thanks to the labours of Frederic G. Kitton and others, reinforced by the "Contributors' Book" of Household Words a page of which is reproduced in the Introduction-no further doubt exists to-day as to the anonymous papers which may with certainty be ascribed to Dickens, or as to the identity of his occasional collaborators. The details on this point are duly set out by Mr. Matz, who has also retained Kitton's bibliographical notes.

It is not easy to add words of praise to those we have already used concerning this memorable edition. Its high standard of production alike in text, illustrations, and binding, together with its surprising chearness, makes it a landmark in the history of publishing. We may add that these two concluding volumes contain all the stories and sketches recently identified as the work of Dickens, the right to publication of which rests solely in Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

The Life and the Poetry of Charles Cotton. By Charles Jacob Sembower. (University of Pennsylvania.)—Prof. Sembower has taken for his subject the least interesting aspects of a writer who has a claim on the remembrance of readers as author of the treatise published in all but the first four editions of 'The Compleat Angler,' and as the translator of Montaigne. Students of Restoration literature have had to wade through 'Scarronides or Virgil Travestie,' its dull and obvious humour, and its duller and more obvious dirt, and the 'Lucian put into English Fustian'— fustian because shoddy had not then been invented. Few materials exist for a life of Cotton beyond records of the gradual dissipation of his means, and his own hints as to the way in which this came about. Prof. Sembower seems to have missed no obvious source of information, and to have brought together all that is known of Cotton's career. As for his verse, it has been praised by poets for qualities which do not appertain to poetry, and by non-poets, such as Trench, Lamb, and Lowell, for its poetical merits. At its best it is simple in language and commonplace in thought and execution; at its worst it is rank fustian. The author of this book does not, of course, share these views, but he has not brought forward a single original line of Cotton's which will live in the memory of a lover of our language for its intrinsic beauty. The line that Lowell quoted "for its own dear sake,"

For in a virtuous act all good men share, shows the quality of Cotton's metrical achievement as well as the originality of his thought. The French influence on Cotton is well indicated, and the book is useful, though mainly as removing any regrets the lover of our poetry may have felt at not having read Cotton's verse.

Twelve Bad Men: Original Studies of Eminent Scoundrels by Various Hands. Edited by Thomas Seccombe. (Fisher Unwin.)—This reissue of a book seventeen years old seems to have been published without the editor and authors having an opportunity of revising their work or correcting

their mistakes and omissions. For instance, Prof. Gregory Foster cannot be ignorant of the fact that a fine portrait of Bothwell exists and has been reproduced. Mr. A. F. Pollard (or the Editor) has no doubt found out by this time that Dr. Dee's 'Book of Spirits,' 1659, is a work the reverse of "not easy to identify," being the well-known 'True and Faithful Relation....' published by Casaubon in that year, and mentioned in a note at the end of the book. Mr. J. W. Allen has probably learnt the proper dates of some of the incidents of Simon Fraser's career; while the hints given in our review of July 21st, 1894, might have been taken by those concerned.

Apart from its somewhat ponderous pleasantries, the book is interesting and deserved reprinting and enlarging. We do not feel sure that Bothwell and Ned Kelly are quite worthy of their companions in this book: Kelly because his badness seems to have been rather accidental than ingrained—too one-sided to rank with that of the complete scoundrels who are his fellows; Bothwell because he stands far out from them, a man of a different calibre altogether. He murdered, he perjured himself, he had primitive methods of dealing with women; but the more one knows of his contemporaries and rivals, the less exceptional does he seem except in this alone, that he mastered Mary Stuart. The man who could inspire in Mary's breast the passion of that long letter from the casket (for no one now doubts that large portions of it, at least, are authentic) must have been of heroic mould, however low he could fall in after years.

Twelve Bad Women, edited by Arthur Vincent (same publisher), is also a re-issue, of a work fourteen years old, but, both as biography and as literature, has some title to permanent value. Notice might, however, have been taken of the fact that one of the twelve (Elizabeth Chudleigh) has been recently the subject of a full-length literary portrait, and that others have been handled by rival miniaturists. Of the latter, at least from a literary standpoint, we prefer the present editor's 'Alice Perrers' to that of her more recent limner; but in Mary Bateman, "the Yorkshire Witch," Mr. Vincent had a theme more worthy of his skilful pen than that historic skeleton. Frances Howard, Countess of Somerset, probably the wickedest woman in the collection, has figured recently in a study of her second husband and former paramour, Carr, Earl of Somerset. In Mr. Geoffrey Martin's contribution before us she more deservedly holds the front of the stage. On the whole, we find the most interesting of the termagant mistress of Charles II., to whom Mr. Kalisch does full justice. To be placed "very near the worst of the bad women of history" may, however, seem to some a pinnacle of turpitude which Barbara Palmer scarcely deserves. Nor will authentic records support the writer in his assertion that one of her victims, the founder of Hungerford Market, died at the age of 115. Mary Anne Clarke, the vulgar mistress of the Duke of York, certainly did not deserve

Coenwall as known to Mrs. Havelock Ellis would seem to be especially favoured in the possession of philosophers; for the rustics in *The Imperishable Wing* (Stanley Paul) discuss the psychology of sex and kindred subjects after a fashion which, a picturesque touch of dialect excepted, would not be out of place in a Kensington drawing-room. Two or three of the stories show decided originality of an uncanny and not wholly pleasing description.

'THE ATHENÆUM.'

The Athenœum during the eighty-three years of its existence has had few references in its columns to those associated with its conduct, but I take the opportunity of joining with my nephew, Mr. John Edward Francis, in returning thanks for the congratulations we have received upon our acquirement of the property, to give a brief record of those responsible for the management of the paper to the present date.

brief record of those responsible for the management of the paper to the present date. The Atheneum was founded by James Silk Buckingham, its first number being published on Wednesday, the 2nd of January, 1828, Henry Colburn being part proprietor. Silk Buckingham edited the paper for a few weeks, but his love of change, together with the many enterprises with which he was associated, caused him soon to relinquish the post, and he handed over the editorship to Dr. Stebbing.

The group of young men that Silk Buckingham gathered round him included Frederick Denison Maurice, and on July 30th, when The Literary Chronicle was incorporated with The Athenœum, Maurice, who had been editor of the former, was appointed editor; but after a trial of twelve months he became so much depressed and out of health that his mother persuaded him to give up the work, and at the beginning of June, 1829, he was followed by John Sterling—but only for a short time, for on the 5th of June, 1830, the latter was succeeded by Charles Wentworth Dilke, who became part proprietor with Holmes, the printer, who had pur-chased Sterling's share. Dilke took entire control; he was then in his forty-first year. A strong man, bold to overcome all difficulties in his way, he refused social engagements in order to avoid any suspicion of being subject to bias, which was then the outstanding evil of literary criticism. His friend W. J. Thoms has well said that the distinguishing feature of his character was his singular love of truth, and his sense of its value and importance, even in the minutest points and questions of literary history." It was Dilke who made The history." It was Dilke who made *The Athenœum* the pioneer of the cheap press, and on the 6th of August, 1831, he reduced its price from eightpence to fourpence.

When the announcement of the proposed change was made, letters poured in from subscribers, who feared that the circulation of the paper would not be sufficiently large to pay at the small price of 4d., and some of the other proprietors, including Hood and his brother-in-law, John Hamilton Reynolds, were much alarmed. The change proved a great success, the sale increased sixfold, and on the 7th of January, 1832, appeared a jubilant address: "Our success has exceeded even our own sanguine hopes."

On the 23rd of May, 1846, Dilke entrusted the editorship to T. K. Hervey. Although Dilke gave up the editorship partly on account of his taking over the management of *The Daily News*, he still retained control over the contents of the paper, and in the absence of the editor would resume his old chair. This he did as long as health would permit. At the end of 1853 Hepworth Dixon, who had been for some time a contributor, succeeded Hervey as editor.

Dixon remained editor until 1870, when he was followed by Norman Maccoll, who resigned on account of failing health at Christmas, 1900, being succeeded by the present editor, who had for some time previously assisted him.

My father's first meeting with Charles Wentworth Dilke took place at the old printing office in Took's Court in August, 1831, when he called in answer to an advertisement for a junior clerk; and on the 4th of October the full business management of the paper was placed in his hands. This was a great responsibility for so young a man, he being only 20 years of age on the 18th of the previous July. Into the building-up of the then young journal he entered with the greatest enthusiasm, working both early and late.

On his death on the 6th of April, 1882, I took over the management, and on the st of January, 1898, the seventieth birthday of The Athenœum was commemorated by a long article, written at my request by my friend Mr. Theodore Watts-Dunton. On the 6th of January, 1906, The Athenœum announced that my nephew, John Edward Francis, the proprietor of the Athenœum Press where The Athenœum had been printed since 1830, who had for some time rendered me valuable assistance and who will continue the active management, was officially recognized as joining with me in the responsibility of publishing the paper. On the 27th of January of this year, Sir Charles Dilke, the grandson of Charles Wentworth Dilke, died, he had been sole proprietor of the paper since 1870. By his will the paper was left in trust, with the request that my nephew should act as one of the trustees, each of us receiving a one-third share. As, however, power had been given to us to purchase the remaining rights, we have availed ourselves of that power, and the 4th of October of this year, the eightieth anniversary of my father's becoming manager, sees the paper to which he devoted his life the property of his son and grandson.

CUNNINGHAM'S EXTRACTS FROM THE REVELS' BOOKS, 1842.*

I CANNOT expect sufficient space to answer all the little points in Mr. Law's long letters. In regard to Peter Cunningham, I am afraid he is on the horns of a logical dilemma. If the papers are genuine, they belong to the Crown, and Cunningham was dishonest in taking possession of them. If the papers were made his own by adaptation, he was dishonest in attempting to make people believe them genuine.

As to myself, Mr. Law reproaches me for not being convinced by the solemn opinion of great manuscript experts. I did not think it courteous to drag their names into a discussion on Mr. Law's book, nor to marshal the verdict of other scholars on the opposite side. A search after truth should not be barred by authority. Mr. Law reproaches me also for my methods, Having always believed the papers forgeries, I approached them with fresh eyes after Mr. Law's defence, and studied them long and carefully from every aspect. The cumulative weight of manifold peculiarities convinced me anew from internal evidence; then I searched for external testimony, and found that it supported my suspicions.

As to the papers themselves, the facts I brought forward in *The Athenœum* for the 22nd and 29th of July seem to me sufficient to characterize them. In regard to Mr. Law's strictures on my arguments, I have a great deal to say, but must sign a "self-denying ordinance." To decide on the

^{*} We insert this reply from our earlier correspondent, before Mr. Law has completed his series of letters, as on account of the pressure on our columns at this period of the year we cannot be sure of flading space week by week for the continuation of the discussion.

genealogy of "Malone's scrap" must at best be a "Comedy of Supposes." There is no allusion to it during Malone's lifetime, and all his papers were left to the younger Boswell, who completed the work he had begun. I know that Halliwell-Phillipps thought the facts might be genuine, but Mr. Law does not complete the passage concerning the suspected document: "It is altogether impossible that so experienced a record student as Malone could have been record student as Malone could have been even transiently deceived by the forgery now in existence" (5th ed., 'Outlines'). It would be interesting to have the handwriting of the "scrap" compared with that of Sir Henry Herbert, Ireland, or Collier, or other possible writers.

It may illustrate Mr. Law's methods of criticism if I analyze the two columns appearing in *The Athenœum* on September 16th. He takes the trouble to point out that I had misspelt 'Love's Labours Lost.' Now it came to me in proof spelt as above; Now it came to me in proof spelt as above; I corrected it, perhaps not very legibly, and by error it appeared in my article as it did. He also notes I misspelt "St. John's night." He misunderstood me; I was generalizing, He misunderstood me; I was generaling, not quoting (though I did notice the peculiar way the h was squeezed into "St. John's night"). I was quite familiar with the metathesis, but I was drawing attention to the practice of dating saints' days at night in the history of the Revels. He has sucm the history of the Reveis. He has succeeded in finding one solitary use of the "night" without the "day" in M. Feuillerat's book on the Revels, of "Twelf Night." But "Twelf Night" was not a saint's day, and there was a different use of "day" and "night" for the 6th of January. The other examples he gives are from the expenses of "carriage of stuff" and workmen's expenses, and do not affect my discussion on the play-lists at all. He quotes others from the Declared Accounts, which only concerned themselves with the amount of money spent and to whom given. When the clerks wanted space they often contracted dates. Indeed, if Mr. Law had gone on to f. 249 of the same Roll 543 from gone on to 1. 249 of the same Roll 343 from which he quotes, he would have found only the number of the plays given, without any names or dates at all. These bills were all referable back to the "particular accompts" if there were any dispute. And the Revels' Books are "particular accompts," so give the dates in full. The notes kept by Sir Henry Herbert are more of the nature of a diary, containing many of the nature of a diary, containing many personal allusions, and could have been used to compile "particular accompts," but were not such accounts.

But the special contention lies in the entry in the 1604-5 list of "Betwin Newers Day and Twelfe Day, a play of Loue's Labours Lost." I considered that false, through the indefiniteness; also because there is no record, in the same account, of workmen making any preparation for a play between these dates, and because 'Love's Labours Lost,' being played at Southampton House on January 12th, would not enter into Court expenses. Mr. Law acknowledges that he thinks there was no performance at Court, but he adds, unfortunately, that the clerk, not having been present himself, when he came to compile the list nearly a year after, might be uncertain of its date!

To crown this confusing statement, Mr. Law goes on to say that I am wrong in my date of January 12th, because Carleton's letters to Chamberlain does not give a date,

"a careful reading of the exact words of Carleton's original letter in the Record Office, instead of the bare abstract of it in the Calendar, suggests that the festivities referred to probably took place on an earlier day in the year—presumably 'betwin Newers Day and Twelfe Day,'" &c.

Now I always work from originals, and never from Calendars. But what does this letter really say? Carleton, writing on January 15th,* says: "Last night's revels were kept at my Lord of Cranborne's ... and ye like two nights before at my Lord of Southampton's.

I think I was justified in finding the "12th of January" from this. We get the name of the play from Cope's letter. Mr. Law's misreading does not help his argument, for the Declared Accounts, Pipe Office, 543, show that the King's players did not play between Innocents' Day at night and the 7th of January. And if they did not play it, no other company would be allowed to play 'Love's Labours Lost,' because that was their own property!

I think that this example is sufficient at present. I must just, however, allude to Mr. Law's third letter of September 30th. I do not think he quite gathers the meaning of my points about the irregularity of the account of 1604-5, in the force of which I still believe. It is quite possible that he may be right about "the fayre Mayde of Bristol." That is not dated.

Bristol." That is not dated.

The King paid other players than his own when they performed at his command. The number of their performances can be reckoned from "The Declared Accounts," and I think there will be found to be more than are mentioned in these particular accounts: one must study the originals to compare.

Mr. Law uses unnecessarily strong language, both in his book and in his letters, against those who differ from him in opinion. But we are all, I presume, seeking after truth, and an open discussion often "makes dark places plain."

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S PEN.

Your correspondent Mr. Archibald Brown (see The Athenaum of September 16th) is not quite right in supposing that Sir Walter's pen was always a grey goose quill. Your conjecture that the "silver pen" was a quill in a holder of silver was very near the mark. In 1809 Joseph Bramah patented an invention for cutting quills into separate nibs, and there is clear evidence that Sir Walter used these pens. In the 'Journal,' under date of August 10th, 1827, he wrote as

"This is a morning of fidgety, nervous confusion. I sought successively my box of Bramah pens, my proof - sheets, and last, not least anxiously, my spectacles. I am convinced I lost a full hour in these various chases."

And the pen referred to in that pathetic entry which closes the record for January, 1831—"I cannot tell why my pen stammers egregiously, and I write horridly incorrect" was undoubtedly a Bramah. Four sportive lines-a parody on Burns's 'Blithe was She' -which he wrote some three months later, which he wrote some three months later, show that Sir Walter was still faithful to the nibs of 1827. After the severe paralytic attack of April, 1831, the doctors put him on a regimen, and implored him to abstain from work, but "he smiled on them in silence, or answered with some jocular rhyme." One snatch of this frolic verse casts a gleam upon Lockhart's record of those sad days :-

Dour, dour, and eident was he, Dour and eident but-and-ben: Dour against their barley-water, And eident on the Bramah pen.

For the benefit of your non-Scottish readers let me add that eident means eagerly diligent.
CHRISTIAN TEARLE.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Allan (Rev. William), The Christian Teaching of

Coin Mottoes, 3/6 With a supplementary chapter on the Religious Character of Ancient Coins by the Rev. Jeremiah Zimmerman, and many illustra-

Bannister (Canon A. T.), Politics in the Pulpit: Sermons preached in Hereford Cathedral, Clarke (William Newton), The Ideal of Jesus,

5/ net.
Clayton (Rev. H. J.), Archbishop Whitgift and his
Times, 2/6
With 4 illustrations.
Cleaver (late Rev. W. H.), Plain Sermons on the
Sacrament of the Altar, 1/ net.

Fourth edition.

Forsyth (Peter Taylor), Christ on Parnassus:
Lectures on Art, Ethic, and Theology, 10/8

net.

Hoensbroech (Count von), Fourteen Years a Jesuit, 2 vols., 25/ net.

An account of fourteen years' inside experience of the Jesuit Order.

Mysteries for the Meek: a Series of Little Sermons at the Lord's Service on the Lord's Service, addressed to the Lord's Little Ones and Others of the Childlike Mind, by a priest of the Diocese of Worcester, 1/6 net.

Nolloth (Dr. Charles F.), The Historic Personality of Christ. 3d.

One of a course of lectures arranged by the Christian Evidence Society, and delivered at

King's College, London.

Philocalia of Origen: a Compilation of Selected
Passages from Origen's Works made by St.
Gregory of Nazianzus and St. Basil of Cæsarea,

Translated by the Rev. George Lewis.
St. John, with Short Reflections on Each Verse, suitable for Daily Use, by Frederic Noel,

1/ net. chofield (A. T.), Studies in the Highest Thought, Lectures given by request at the Alliance Club, London, and now published in book-

Smith (H. Sutton), "Yakusu," the Very Heart of Africa: being some Account of the Protestant Mission at Stanley Falls, Upper Congo, 6/

net. Three Stages of Unitarian Theology, and other Essays, 2/ net.
These essays have already been published in the Unitarian Penny Library Series.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Canziani (Estella), Costumes, Traditions, and Songs of Savoy, 21/ net.

Illustrated with 50 reproductions of pictures by the author, and with many line drawings.

Collins (W. W.), Cathedral Cities of Italy, 16/

This book deals with the twenty-five principal Cathedrals of Italy, describing not only their architecture and the treasures they contain, but also all that is most characteristic in their but also all that is most characteristic in their surroundings, whether beautiful landscape or picturesque city streets. The other churches, and the municipal buildings, with which each is associated, wherever they are worthy of remark, are also illustrated, and historical notes are added liberally. The pictures are very attractive; and the text is clear and pleasant, full of interesting information presented is a surrounding to the control of the cont

very attractive; and the text is clear and pleasant, full of interesting information presented in a manner which savours as little as may be of the guide-book.

Foley (Edwin), The Book of Decorative Furniture, Section XV., 2/6 net.

Great Engravers: Albrecht Dürer: his Engravings and Woodcuts; and Andrea Mantegna and the Italian Pre-Raphaelite Engravers, 2/6 net each.

Both contain numerous illustrations.

Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent, 1/4

Jerningham (Charles Edward) and Bettany (Lewis), The Bargain Book, 7/6 net.

Contains numerous anecdotes of fortunate discoveries, with several full-page plates.

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tions in colour.

Peasant Art in Austria and Hungary.
Edited by Charles Holme. With numerous illustrations, many in colour.

^{*} State Papers, Dom. Ser. James I., xii. 19.

Art, Music, and Literature. Vol. I. No. II., 1/ net. Steinlen and his Art: Twenty-Four Cartoons,

10/6 net.
With a critical introduction and descriptive

notes.

notes.
Ye Solace of Pilgrimes: a Description of Rome, circa A.D. 1450, by John Capgrave, an Austin Friar of King's Lynn, 7/6 net.
Edited by C. A. Mills for the British and American Archæological Society of Rome, with an introductory note by the Rev. H. M. Bannister.

Poetry and Drama.

Book of the Seven Ages: an Anthology compiled by Henry W. Clark, 3/6 net. Glazier (Louise M.), A Book of Babes, in Woodcut and Verse, 1/6 net. Homer's Odyssey: a Line-for-Line Translation in the Metre of the Original, by H. B. Cotterill,

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Kendim (Ben), Eastern Songs, 5/ net.
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Some of the Verses have been published in English magazines. Lambe (John Lawrence), Experiments in Play Writing in Verse and Prose. Moyse (Charles E.), The Lure of Earth, and other

Moyse (Charles E.), The Lure of Earth, and other Poems, 1/ net.

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Saint-George (Henry), The Young Man from Stratford: a Juryman's View of the Bacon-Shakespeare Controversy, 2/ net.
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Sweet Songs of Many Voices compiled by Kate A. Wright, 3/6 net.

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The history is brought down to 1910.
Columbia University Studies in English: the Political Prophecy in England, by Rupert Taylor; and The Rise of the Novel of Manners; a Study of English Prose Fiction between 1600 and 1740, by Charlotte E. Morgan, \$1. 25 net each.

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Edited by Charlton Yarnall.
Horsley (John William), "I Remember": Memories of a "Sky Pilot" in the Prison and the Slum, 7/6 net.

the Slum, 7/6 net.

The author is well known for his work as a social reformer.

Social reformer.

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Revised enton, with a number of mustra-tions of paper-marks.

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Wright (Alex. Tremaine), Jeremiah Rich, Semigrapher of the Commonwealth, and his Continuators, 5/ net.

An account of an early shorthand writer, with portraits and title-pages.

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Cross (Alexander), The Lands of the West, 1/ net.
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Education.

James (H. R.), Education and Statesmanship in

James (H. R.), Education and Statesmanship in India, 1797 to 1910, 3/6 net. A number of papers which appeared in *The* Calcutta Statesman in the early part of this year. London University: University College Calendar, Session 1911–12.

University Correspondence College Calendar, 1911–12, 1/ net. In the University Tutorial Series.

Welsh Intermediate Education Act, 1889: Central Welsh Board Annual Examination, July, 1912: General Regulations and Examina-tion Schedules.

Sociology. Evans (Maurice S.), Black and White in South-East Africa: a Study in Sociology, 6/ net. With a preface by Lieut.-Col. Sir Matthew Nathan and a map. Roscoe (Rev. John), The Baganda: an Account of their Native Customs and Beliefs, 15/net.

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9) net. Juvenile Books.

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plates and other illustrations by H. J. Ford.

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A very excellent boys' book which may be compared with Stevenson's work.

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This is a series of clearly written accounts of the heroes (some of them legendary) whose deeds make the romance of mediæval Europe. It has a supplementary index which shows the countries and topics referred to in the text, and a great number of illustrations.

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Eight short tales.

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Familiar phases of city life are woven in this story round the figure of one who rises from the position of forge hand to that of Cabinet Minister.

Garland (Hamlin), Victor Olnee's Discipline, 6/ A story of spiritualism with a happy love

episode.

episode: farvice (Charles), The Other Girl, 6/ The story turns mainly on the extraordinary likeness between two girls, from which many complications arise before the conventional happy ending.

happy ending.

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Tristan for the Lotus Library.

Grier (Sydney C.), The Keepers of the Gate, 6/
A romance of the white man's burden at the Indian frontier in the time of the Mutiny

Groner (Augusta), The Man with the Black Cord, 6/ Tells how an Austrian detective traces a man who is terrorizing an entire neighbourhood by his murders and assaults. Translated by Grace Isabel Colbron.

Hocking (Joseph), The Wilderness, 6/
The theme is a case of impersonation and of the remorse which living the lie brings in its train.

Howell (Constance), Mrs. Charteris, 6/
This is another contribution to the already large output on the divorce question. Mrs. Charteris, deserted by her husband, goes through a form of marriage with another man, who, on discovering the deception, also leaves

her.

James (Henry), The Outcry, 6/
For notice see p.17.

Malet (Lucas), Adrian Savage, 6/
The author affirms in her preface that the characters portrayed as well as their circumstances and the episodes in which they play their parts are her own invention, and that her book was completed before the disappearance of La Gioconda from the Louvre.

Patterson (J. E.), Love like the Sea, 6/
A rather gruesome story of a ménage à trois.
The mother of the husband, a seaman, poisons his child while intending to kill his wife.
Rhodes (Kathlyn), Flower of Grass, 6/
The heroine is admired by two brothers.
Most of the action takes place in Egypt, though the concluding chapters are laid in the isles of Soilly.

Scilly.
Rolland (Romain), John Christopher in Paris, 6/

Translated by Gilbert Cannan. For review of Part II. of the story see Athen., April 29, 1911, p. 474.

Sherring (Herbert), Gopi, 6/
A collection of stories, the title one giving an account of a visitation of plague in an Indian city.

city.

Somerville (E. Œ.) and Ross (Martin), Dan Russel the Fox: an Episode in the Life of Miss Rowan, 6/

The story is chiefly about hunting, the scene

The story is chiefly about nutring, the scene being laid in Ireland, as in the case of other stories by these popular collaborators. Tolstoy (Leo), In the Days of Serfdom and other Stories, translated by L. and A. Maude, 6/ Twain (Mark), The Adventures of Tom Sawyer,

New edition.

General Literature.

Acorn (George), One of the Multitude, 6/ Mr. Benson in his introduction describes the book as "a piece of the authentic stuff of life

the book as "a piece of the authentic sturn of life."

Blake (William) The Marriage of Heaven and Hell, and a Song of Liberty 3/6 net.

A very welcome and attractive reprint, introduced by a full and illuminating discussion from the pen of Francis Griffin Stokes.

Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature: Early Religious Poetry of Persia, by James Hope Moulton; Greek Tragedy, by J. T. Sheppard; Historical Growth of the English Parish Church, by A. Hamilton Thompson; King Arthur in History and Legend, by W. Lewis Jones; Links with the Past in the Plant World, by A. C. Seward; New Zealand, by Sir Robert and J. Logan Stout; Primitive Animals, by Geoffrey Smith; and The Wanderings of Peoples, by A. C. Haddon, I/ net.

Farrow (Thomas), Banks and People, 1/ net.

Advocates the establishment of Land Banks in England, but on lines differing from those of the German institutions.

German institutions.

German institutions.

Hind (C. Lewis), The Consolations of a Critic.

With 32 full-page illustrations.

Ingram (Archibald K.), Boys: What They Are and How to Manage Them, 3d. net.

With a Preface by Sir R. S. S. Baden Powell.

Jones (J. Ernest), A Short History of Birming-

ham, 1/ net. With 22 illustrations.

London Stories, Part I., 6d. net.
Edited by John o' London.
O'Donnell (Elliott), Byways of Ghost-Land, Discusses vampires, were-wolves, telepathy,

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Contains a selection of verses, and the birthdays of all the reigning sovereigns and other members of royal families, compiled by M. E. W. Strong (Isobel), Robert Louis Stevenson, 1/ net.

One of the Little Books on Great Writers. Vox Clamantis, by Numa Minimus, 3/6 net.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bibliotheca Abessinica: Vol. IV. The Octateuch in Ethiopic, edited by Dr. J. Oscar Boyd: Part II. Exodus and Leviticus, 11m.

Fine Art.

Deutsche Kunst und Dekoration, Oktober, 2m. 50.

The first part of a new volume of this art monthly, which is full of illustrations, both in the text and as separate plates.

Geography and Travel.

Rosen (Erwin), Der Deutsche Lausbub in Amerika: Erinnerungen und Eindrücke, Vol. I.

The author's earlier book, 'In the Foreign Legion,' was reviewed in The Athenaum of March 12, 1910, p. 306.

Philology.

Paulson (Johannes), Index Lucretianus, 6kr. 25. The Swedish author published in 1897 a ork on the Lucretian hexameter, published, like his present one, at Gothenburg.

All books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending books.

Literary Gossip.

THE story of the recent constitutional conflict is the subject of a work by Mr. Frank Dilnot, to be published by Messrs. Smith & Elder early this month. 'The Old Order Changeth' gives a connected narrative of events from the introduction of the Budget on April 29th, 1909, to the passing into law of the Parliament Bill on August 18th last; and an attempt is made to analyze some of the causes of the conflict, and to explain sympathetically the ideals of both parties. The work includes character studies of Mr. Asquith. Mr. Balfour, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Mr. F. E. Smith, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and others.

The same firm will on Monday add to their shilling library Mr. Sidney Low's 'A Vision of India,' which appears opportunely at a cheap price in view of the approaching Durbar, and Capt. F. W. von Herbert's 'The Defence of Plevna.' The latter volume has long been out of print, and Sir John French has written an introduction for the new edition: the author has also considerably curtailed the original work and made numerous corrections. Other volumes to be added to the same library immediately are Sir A. Conan Doyle's 'The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes,' Dr. W. H. Fitchett's 'Nelson and his Captains,' and H. S. Merriman's 'With Edged Tools.'

WE learn that the volume of 'Judgments in Vacation,' just published, in London by Messrs. Smith & Elder, and in Manchester by Messrs. Sherratt & Hughes, is in part a reprint of papers that have already appeared. These have been revised by the author, His Honour Judge Parry, and corrected in various points.

In his volume entitled 'Two Visits to Denmark, 1872-4,' which the same firm will publish next Thursday, Dr. Edmund Gosse has endeavoured to convey an impression of the moral and intellectual aspect of one of the smallest but one of the most cultivated countries of Europe, as he saw it nearly forty years ago. The volume makes no pretence at being a record of adventure, or a guide to the tourist.

On the same day the above firm will also publish, with some additional material and a new preface, Mr. Arthur C. Benson's books 'The Hill of Trouble' and the 'Isles of Sunset' in one volume.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN have arranged to bring out in the course of next week the following books-On Tuesday: 'Fairies Afield,' by Mrs. Molesworth, with illustrations by Gertrude Demain Hammond; 'Ethan Frome,' a New England love-story, by Edith Wharton; 'Conduct and its Disorders Biologically Considered, by Dr. C. A. Mercier; and Part III., 'The Dying God,' of the third edition of Dr. J. G. Frazer's 'Golden Bough.' On Friday: 'Man and Beast in Eastern Ethiopia from observations made in Ethiopia, from observations made in British East Africa, Uganda, and the Sudan,' by Mr. J. Bland-Sutton, the eminent surgeon; and an edition of Lewis Carroll's 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and through the Looking-Glass,' with 92 illustrations by Sir John Tenniel, 16 being in colour.

THE RICCARDI PRESS will publish through Mr. Lee Warner the morality play 'Everyman,' with plates after water-colour drawings by Mr. J. H. Amschewitz; Vols. III. and IV. (completing the work) of Malory's 'Le Morte Darthur,' with plates after water-colours by Mr. Russell Flint; and 'The Revival of Printing: a Catalogue and Bibliography of the Works issued by the Chief Modern English Presses,' with an Introduction by Mr. Robert Steele.

Mr. Lee Warner also announces 'The Dialogues of St. Gregory, Surnamed the Great,' edited by Mr. Edmund G. Gardner, and a revised translation of Paul Thureau-Dangin's 'Life of St. Bernardino of Siena,' both volumes illustrated in colour and half-tone after works by the Old Masters; 'Songs and Lyrics of Robert Burns,' selected by Mr. W. Macdonald, with illustrations after Mr. Russell Flint and Mr. R. Purves Flint; and 'With Ski in Norway and Lapland,' by Mr. J. H. W. Fulton, illustrated from the author's photographs.

The announcement is made that 'Letters to my Son,' the authorship of which has been kept secret, is the work of Miss Winifred James, author of 'Patricia Baring' and other successful novels. Miss James's new book, 'Letters of a Spinster,' will be issued during this month by Messrs. Chapman & Hall, the publishers of 'Letters to my Son,' now in its thirteenth edition.

Mr. G. M. Trevelyan intends shortly to publish a collection of poems dealing with the liberation of Italy under the title 'English Songs of Italian Freedom.' Mr. Trevelyan has written an historical and literary Introduction to the poems, which are by many of our most distinguished poets, and elucidatory notes have been added where necessary.

Messrs. Cassell are publishing a sixpenny series of essays by well-known writers treating of some of the most important social questions. The series is entitled "New Tracts for the Times," and the first three, to be published during the month, will be 'The Regeneration of the Race,' by Dr. Havelock Ellis; 'Methods of Race Regeneration,' by Dr. C. W. Saleeby; and 'The Declining Birth-Rate: its National and International Bearings,' by Dr. A. Newsholme.

They will also bring out next Thursday an édition de luxe of Stevenson's 'Treasure Island,' with 12 plates in colour from pictures by Mr. John Cameron. This will be limited to 250 copies, but a cheaper edition with the same illustrations will appear at the same time.

MESSRS. BELL & SONS will publish during the next few weeks the second and con-

cluding volume of Miss A. D. Greenwood's 'Hanoverian Queens of England,' treating of Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, and Queen Adelaide; 'The Adventures of Don Quixote,' illustrated by Mr. Paul Hardy, Motteux's translation being adapted for young readers; 'Jane Eyre,' with an Introduction by Mr. Clement Shorter, and illustrations by M. V. Wheelhouse; and a new volume of Mr. Rogers's Aristophanes, the 'Lysistrata.'

Early next year the same firm hope to publish the third and final volume of Swift's correspondence, edited by Mr. Elrington Ball.

MESSRS. GEORGE ALLEN & Co. will shortly publish a work by the Rev. J. O. Bevan, entitled 'Wits and their Humours.' The book contains a large number of anecdotes.

MESSRS. SANDS & Co. will issue shortly 'Under the Rose: a Romance of the Days of Queen Elizabeth,' by Felicia Curtis; and 'The Mirror of Oxford: being a Catholic History of Oxford from the Earliest to Present Times,' by the Rev. C. Dawson, S.J. (a graduate of Exeter College, Oxford), with a map of Oxford at the time of the Reformation and one of present-day Oxford, and other illustrations.

MESSRS. WHITCOMBE & TOMBS will publish during the early part of this month four books about Australia: 'The Pastoral Age in Australasia,' by Mr. James Collier; 'Life in the Australian Backblocks,' by Mr. Edward S. Sorenson; 'An Old New Zealander; or, Te Rauparaha, the Napoleon of the South,' by Mr. T. Lindsay Buick, an account of a famous native warrior; and 'The Adventures of Kimble Bent,' by Mr. James Cowan. Bent was a deserter from the English army, and Mr. Cowan relates his life amongst the Maoris at the time of the war in New Zealand.

A NOVEL by Sir James H. Yoxall, M.P., entitled 'The Courtier Stoops' will be published by Messrs. Smith & Elder on the 12th inst. The story deals with the marriage of Goethe to the low-born and uncultured Christiane, and offers a key to the enigma of seemingly fallen greatness.

Mrs. Katharine S. Macquoid's new novel 'Molly Montague's Love-Story,' which is concerned with the eighteenth-century, will be published early this month.

Mr. John Payne's translation of Heine's poems is now in the binders' hands, and will shortly be ready for issue to subscribers.

A SERIES of characteristic letters written by Björnson to his daughter Bergliot Ibsen has just been published by her.

The Hungarian Government has purchased the literary and artistic property of Moritz Jokai from his widow for 140,000 kroner. It includes a valuable library, several portraits of the author

by eminent artists, and his correspondence with celebrated people of all nationalities. The furniture of his library is to be placed in the Petöfi Museum.

The centenary of Asbjörnsen, the Hans Andersen of Norway, will be celebrated by a memorial edition of his works.

* WE have to record the death on Wednesday, at Mauricewood, Midlothian, of Joseph Bell, M.D., F.R.C.S. Born in 1837, he was the fourth generation of a well-known family of celebrated Edinburgh doctors, one of whom was the "Dr. Bell" of 'Holiday House.' He was for 23 years (1873–96) editor of The Edinburgh Medical Journal, and was for 25 years surgeon at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. He wrote little, his best-known works being a 'Manual of Surgical Operations' and 'Notes of Surgery for Nurses,' both of which have run intomany editions; but his perspicacity and quick insight led to his being the original of "Sherlock Holmes," the author or creator of whom, Sir A. Conan Doyle, was one of his pupils. It will be long before the Edinburgh Medical School forgets "Doctor Joe" and his kindly wisdom.

WE regret to see announced the death of Sir Herbert Risley, well known as a distinguished member of the Indian Civil Service. He not only filled with great ability and success several important secretaryships—he was at his death Secretary to the Judicial and Public Department of the India Office—but he alsomade a thorough scientific study of the anthropology and ethnography of the Indian populations, and produced upon these subjects work which won him recognition beyond the limits of his own country. Among his books may be mentioned 'Primitive Marriage in Bengal,' 'Widow and Infant Marriage,' 'Sikkim and Tibet,' 'Tribes and Castes of Bengal,' and 'The People of India.'

The autumn meeting of the English Association will take place on Friday, November 17th, at King's College, Strand, when Prof. Gilbert Murray will deliver a lecture on 'What can English Poetry still learn from Greek?'

The Association now enters on the sixth year of its activities. A large branch has just begun work in South India, with head-quarters at Madras. The next leaflet will contain an essay on Bunyan by Prof. C. H. Firth.

Mr. T. Matthews writes from Eryl, Llandebie, Carmarthenshire:—

"Will any persons who have letters of John Gibson or Penry Williams be so kind as to forward them to me to examine and copy? Every care will be taken of them, and they will be promptly returned to such as will entrust them to me."

Mr. B. W. WILLETT has resigned the managing directorship of Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Trübner, and has accepted the post of manager to Mr. John Lane, Mr. Herbert Jenkins having resigned his position at the Bodley Head.

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SCIENCE

Les Bushongo. Par E. Torday et T. A. Joyce. "Publications Scientifiques du Ministère du Congo." (Brussels.)

THIS handsome volume-or portfolio, as one might almost term it, in view of its size, and of the fine reproductions of Mr. Hardy's water-colour sketches that accompany the text-is the fruit of a scientific expedition which left England in October, 1907, and returned in September, 1909. Mr. E. Torday, who had already spent eight years on the Congo and had the inestimable advantage of knowing something of the speech of the country, was in command of it—ably assisted by Messrs. M. W. Hilton Simpson and Norman H. Hardy, the latter of whom, however, was unfortunately prevented from continuing his stay in Africa as long as he could have wished.

The party in the course of its travels encountered a great number of tribes, some of them by no means friendly; as, for instance, they discovered in crossing the hitherto unknown country of the Bakongo and Bashilele, between the Loange and Kasai rivers, along the 5th parallel south of the equator. By far the most interesting of these peoples proved to be the Bushongo ("People of the Shongo," or throwing-knife), whose kingdom lies in the fork formed by the Kasai and Sankuru rivers, and would appear from the map to contain some 4,000 to 5,000 square miles of territory, in the heart of which is situated the capital Mingenja. The present memoir deals mainly with the Bushongo. It adds, however, some im-portant particulars about the Bakongo and Bashilele, who are almost certainly allied to the former by blood. A section is also devoted to the Basongo Meno, who have for many years been in touch with the Bushongo, and indeed have been partly absorbed into their empire.

The method that was followed deserves special notice. All notes were transcribed in duplicate, and one copy was promptly dispatched to the British Museum, where Mr. Joyce put the notes into order, and sent back to the explorers suggestions for supplementary investigations wherever there seemed to be a gap in the evidence. If field and study would but learn to co-operate a little more on the lines of this excellent arrangement, how much better it would be for every one concerned!

Perhaps the most striking of all the facts relating to a people in every way remarkable is the knowledge displayed by the Bushongo about their own history. The anthropologist is usually compelled to deal with institutions that are simply "shot out of a pistol" at his head; with the result that he has to fall back on general speculations about human

origins, which, if pardonable in the eyes of those who can appreciate the difficulties of the case, are apt, we fear, to cause ill-concealed amusement to the Philistine. But here we have a people whose official list of kings reckons a hundred and twenty-one up to the present sovereign, Kwete Peshanga Kena, a man of great intelligence, aged about thirtyseven, who perfectly realized the objects of the expedition, and gave it much assistance. The interest taken by the people in their past is proved by their actually having a special functionary, the Moaridi, whose business is to keep the records. Of course legend predominates in these traditions. At the same time, Mr. Torday makes out a very good case for believing that much genuine history is to be recovered therefrom.

A great deal turns on the question of chronology. Mr. Torday argues convincingly that the total eclipse of the sun recorded to have taken place in the reign of the ninety-eighth monarch was that of March 30th, 1680. If that can be regarded as a fixed point, we get something like the year 1600 for the reign of the greatest name in the catalogue, Shamba Balongongo, whose place is ninety-third. His "historicity" is vouched for by the fact that an excellent wooden portraitstatue of him exists, and may be studied at the British Museum by the curious, who will see in it one of the most remarkable works of art that native

Africa has ever produced.

Under this king the Bushongo were at the zenith of their prosperity. It is worth noticing that his fame does not rest, as does that of many African heroes, on his military exploits. On the contrary, he was a man of peace, a patron of the useful arts, and a gnomic philosopher into the bargain. He insisted, whilst still in the position of heir apparent, on travelling far and wide to see the world. When warned of the danger, he replied: "A king is the greatest of men, therefore he should be the wisest. I must study the virtues and vices of other peoples-the virtues that the Bushongo may imitate them, the vices that they may avoid them. As a result of his cosmopolitan experiences, he was able to introduce numberless innovations, extending from the art of superior weaving to the use of tobacco. He may also be said to have indoctrinated his people with the principles of representative government, the various trades, wood-carvers, and other guilds henceforth returning each their member to the Bushongo "Lower House." He was the first monarch to have his portrait-statue carved in wood, his object being "that his successor might remember him and his laws." Thus not undeservedly did he his laws." found a reputation which has lasted until this day—not only amongst the Bushongo, but also for some distance beyond their boundaries—as that of a veritable Solomon.

We cannot attempt here to follow Mr. Torday's researches into the still remoter history of this people. Naturally, as we go further back, the mythical element

comes more and more to prevail, until the first monarch Bumba is indistinguishable from Chembe, or God. It is to be remarked that Bumba is described as in form a white man of commanding size. In fulfilling his function of Creator, Bumba produced out of his inside first of all various animals, and thereafter men, only one of which, namely, his successor Loko Yima, was white like himself. To each set of men Bumba apportioned an animal to be its Ikina Bari, or "tabu"— in other words, a totem. Bumba did this, ordaining that those who broke the tabu and ate their totem animal should die, in order that men might learn to restrain themselves. We may add that the traditions show the Bushongo to have come down originally from the north, probably from somewhere in the basin of the Shari. Mr. Torday is in-clined to think that some negro people of the Central Sudan was in the far distant past subjected to the sway of a white man of Berber blood; and that one branch, the Bushongo went south, whilst another branch the Azande-who seem to have a touch of Berber blood in their veins, and whose culture in certain respects resembles that of the Bushongo-migrated to the east. But these are imposing theoretical constructions upreared upon a somewhat frail basis of fact.

There is so much that might be said about the elaborate constitution of the Bushongo state, with its judicial, military, administrative, and representative functionaries, not to speak of the numberless dignitaries of the Court, that space would fail if we sought to give a tithe of the facts their due. We must not omit to take note, however, of the political position of woman. This is so remarkable that it would well repay the visit of a powerful deputation of the supporters of female suffrage in this country, who might even, we imagine, count on Government aid to convey them to this remote, and but moderately salubrious spot. The high officials who form a sort of House of Lords, limited to eight members, include two women, who must be sisters or daughters of the king. The queen-mother, too, occupies the first place after the king in the order of precedence, this privilege being doubtless due to the fact that the right to the throne descends in the female line. Indeed, in her official capacity of Ma'na Nyimi (mother of the king), she would appear to be in some respects the Nyimi's superior, since it rests with her to address him first, a prerogative which amongst this people always belongs to the superior. Further, in the Lower House, or Council of Elders, there are numerous women. It may be added that monogamy is a fundamental law of the land; whilst another law, also indicative of a high morality, brands sexual relations between master and slave as incestuous.

Indeed, we have here a people who can be said to have not merely a morality, but also an ethics. Some of the precepts composing the Nkanda, or law imparted to the youth at initiation, would challenge comparison with any maxim of, say, the classical, if not of the Christian, world: for instance, "Be just towards your enemy: if he is in danger of drowning, save him; if he is attacked, go to his aid; if the chief sends for him, do not refrain from giving him the message in the hope that he may be punished." Moreover, there is a quaint turn of originality about one and all of these sacred injunctions, another instance being the following: "Do not beat your wife; but, if married folks quarrel, do not interfere."

Not only the moral, but also the material and technological side of Bushongo life is amply and accurately illustrated at once by the text and by the magnificent collection of photographs, which supplies as it were the scientific counterpoise to Mr. Hardy's spiritual and highly successful efforts with the brush.

And what is going to become of the Bushongo? No reader of the book can lay it down without putting to himself this question very seriously. That the Belgian Government are not insensible to the importance and high intrinsic quality of Bushongo culture would seem to be demonstrated by the very fact that they have lavished upon it all the resources of the printer's art. They would surely not have enabled the whole civilized world to know and appreciate this great African people, if their administration had any other object in view than to preserve it, even amid the chaos which all European exploitation of Africa inevitably brings in its train. Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that a nation with such a past is bound to be a proud nation. Treat them, therefore, with respect, and all else will be forgiven. Let it not be supposed for one moment, however, that we would venture to lecture the Belgians in regard to such a matter; for well we know that the Anglo-Saxon, though he tries to be just towards the black man, is, by reason of the race-prejudice of which we hear so much, perhaps the least sympathetic of European invaders.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

British Plants: their Biology and Ecology. By J. F. Bevis and H. J. Jeffery. (Alston Rivers.)—Plant ecology is a comparatively new branch of botany, for Prof. Warming, who may be considered the father of the study, is still living. There are now, however, many who are interested in this, the most "human" branch of the science, and much has been spoken and printed about it. Owing to the complex nature of the data with which it has to deal, ecology is naturally the least exact branch of botany, and among its devotees not a little "gassy" writing and loose thinking are to be found. It is also—partly for the same reasons—that branch of the science most likely to interest outsiders and to awaken living interest in students of plant life, and it is most desirable that elementary students should have as accurate a knowledge of ecology as possible.

Messrs. Bevis and Jeffery offer in relatively compact form, in 300 pages, an account of the ecology and biology of British plants. In their Preface they state that their volume

is designed as a companion to the elementary text and the "field flora." If it is used in conjunction with these, their book will certainly be valuable to some students. Part III., which deals with the principal "associations" of plants, is much the best section. Most of Part II. seems rather superfluous when one remembers the numerous books covering almost the same ground; and Part I. is not quite so accurate as one would like.

Throughout the book there are phrases which convey hazy or incorrect impressions, though it is furnished with almost too numerous headings and sections, which give an appearance of concise accuracy. On p. 86 we read: "The pore-spaces in the soil form a series of irregularly branching tubes"—a statement which in itself may be defended, but which an experienced teacher would avoid. On p. 198 it is said of seeds carried by birds:

"So efficient is this method of dispersal, especially for large and heavy seeds, that plants whose seeds are so dispersed can afford to expend a large part of their substance in making large fleshy envelopes for a small number of seeds, instead of using up all the food in the production of as many seeds as possible. Migratory birds travel every year enormous distances, but as the migrations are north and south, the birds pass through latitudes which differ so widely in climate and seasons that the seeds they may bear with them are seldom capable of establishing a successful footing where they fall."

Here the first and last statements appear contradictory.

On pp. 114 and 115 the headings are misleading. Plants are there divided into two classes: 'I. Terrestrial Plants, rooted in the Soil,' and 'II. Epiphytic Plants, perched on Trees.' Under the second heading, in special type, climbing plants, scramblers, &c., are considered, thus giving the impression that climbers are epiphytes. Of course any botanist knows that they are not, but the book is designed for students, and as the headings are arranged, no student could be blamed if he classed climbers among the epiphytes after studying p. 115. The book has an unusually complete Index, a feature on which the authors are to be congratulated.

La Mission Cottes au Sud-Cameroun (1905–1908): Exposé des Résultats scientifiques. Par le Capitaine A. Cottes. Préface par André Tardieu. (Paris, E. Leroux.)
—The scientific value of this work is small. Its topical interest, on the other hand, is considerable. Why it should be published now, several years after the termination of the mission that it commemorates, is not clear.

Capt. Cottes was sent to delimit the Franco-German frontier in Congo Français, and he appears to have carried out this task most meritoriously, despite difficulties that weighed far more heavily upon his party than upon the Germans. These difficulties were simply due to the fact that on the German side of the border there was effective occupation whilst on the French side there was not. Capt. Cottes himself reports that the country to the north of the line presented an entirely different appearance. Traversed in all directions and completely penetrated by the German traders, it abounded in beaten tracks, along which the Imperial Government was able to establish provision-depôts for the use of their representatives, whereas the French officials had laboriously to transport their supplies from a great distance.

From the point of view of science it was hardly to be expected that a mission primarily concerned with political duties

should gather much valuable material, geographical, anthropological, or biological, in a country confessedly unknown to its titular possessors. The photographs are excellent, but, when that is said, there remains almost nothing to praise. The anthropological data, in the shape of physical measurements that occupy much space, relate to a mere handful of subjects, and hence, of themselves at least, avail the student little. The Fans, the Bavili, and so on are meanwhile—we almost blush to admit it—fairly well known to us already, through the explorations of travellers of our own blood who at the same time may have been perfidiously spying out the riches of the land.

We part from Capt. Cottes with admiration for his simple, soldierly report, which is unexceptionable in tone, but with regret that the Preface should have been committed to a friend whose heart does him more credit than his head.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

WED. Royal Academy, 4.—'The Bones and Muscles of the Trunk, and their Relations to the Surface Form, Lecture I., Prof. A. Thomson.
 Fail. Royal Academy, 4.—'The Bones and Muscles of the Trunk, and their Relations to the Surface Forms,' Lecture II., Prof. A.

Science Cossip.

The next meeting of the International Congress of Chemistry will take place at New York in May, 1914.

According to recent measurements, the depth of the Adriatic is less than has generally been assumed. In 1870 Hopfgartner reported that between Cattaro and Brindisi it had a depth of 1,650 metres. Capt. von Gottstein, who has been directing the measurements for an Austrian Commission on Oceanic Research, reports that he found a depth of 1,100 metres only at the same spot.

Messes. Bell & Sons announce 'Practical Plant Physiology,' by Dr. F. Keeble and Mr. M. C. Rayner; and 'An Experimental Course in Physical Chemistry,' by Dr. J. F. Spencer, the first volume being devoted to Statical Experiments, and the second to Dynamical Experiments.

Messes. Witherey are about to publish 'A Naturalist on Desert Islands,' by Dr. Percy R. Lowe, who has had exceptional opportunities for visiting some of the most isolated and romantic coral islands in the Caribbean Sea; and 'The Home-Life of the Osprey,' photographed and described by Mr. Clinton G. Abbott.

Messes. J. & A. Churchill have just ready for publication Vol. V. of the new edition of 'Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis.' The volume has been rewritten under the editorship of Mr. W. A. Davis and Mr. S. S. Sadtler.

Messes. Whitcombe & Tombs are bringing out 'The Birds of Australia,' by Messes. A. H. S. Lucas and Dudley le Souef, with coloured plates and black-and-white illustrations; and 'An Australian Bird Book,' a pocket volume for field use, by Mr. J. A. Leach, also with numerous illustrations.

Messes. Whittakee & Co.'s announcements include 'Historical Papers on Modern Explosives,' by Mr. G. W. MacDonald; 'Radio-Telegraphist's Guide and Log-book,'

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by Mr. W. H. Marchant; 'Design of Alternating-Current Machinery,' by Mr. J. R. Barr; and revised editions of 'Mineralogy,' by Dr. F. H. Hatch, 'Colour in Woven Design,' by Prof. Roberts Beaumont, and 'Stresses and Strains,' by Mr. F. R. Farrow.

A New comet (g, 1911) was discovered by M. Beliawsky at Pulkowa on the morning of the 29th ult. It was in the constellation Sextans (near the western part of Leo), moving towards the north-east, visible to the naked eye, with a nucleus and a tail.

BROOKS'S COMET (c, 1911) will be in conjunction with the sun on the 12th inst., and will afterwards be visible in the morning, its place at the end of next week being (according to Prof. Kobold's ephemeris) in the constellation Coma, near its boundary with Virgo.

ENCRE'S PERIODICAL COMET (d, 1911) passed its perihelion on August 24th. When M. Gonnessiat detected it at Algiers on the 1st of that month, it was seen with difficulty in the morning twilight. A few days afterwards it passed conjunction with the sun, and is now probably visible, though fainter, in the southern hemisphere, the place being (according to Dr. Backlund's ephemeris) in the constellation Hydra.

Borrelly's periodical comet (e, 1911) was first discovered at Marseilles on December 28th, 1904, and passed its perihelion on the 17th of the following February. When brightest at that appearance, it was of about the ninth magnitude. Its orbit was calculated by M. Fayet of the Paris Observatory, and determined to be elliptic, with a period of somewhat less than seven years. It was, as mentioned last week, redetected by Mr. Knox Shaw at Helwan on the morning of the 20th ult. M. Fayet's ephemeris shows that it is now moving slowly in a northwesterly direction. It will be nearest the earth on December 9th not far from the third-magnitude star η Eridani.

Quenisser's comet (f, 1911) was observed at Königsberg and Arcetri on the 24th ult., the day after its discovery, and subsequently at a large number of places. The elements have been calculated by Herr Ebell, who finds that the perihelion passage will take place on the 13th prox., at the distance from the sun of 0.78 in terms of the earth's mean distance, or about 73,000,000 miles. But as the comet is already receding from the earth, its brightness will probably remain about the same, a little exceeding the seventh magnitude. It is now situated in the northeastern part of the constellation Boötes, moving in a south-easterly direction.

FINE ARTS

The Flight of the Dragon: an Essay on the Theory and Practice of Art in China and Japan. By Laurence Binyon. (John Murray.

No one will be surprised to learn that fourteen hundred years ago the Chinese laid down six canons of art. Nothing is more natural than that some great artist, reviewing in old age his life and work, should deduce from the mass of experience and achievement certain propositions, and that these,

in time, should become rules, to be preached by pedants, practised by dilettanti, and ignored by every artist worthy of the name. What does surprise us is that the first of these Chinese canons should be nothing less than a definition of that which is essential in all great art. "Rhythmic vitality," Prof. Giles calls it; Mr. Okakura, "the Life-movement of the Spirit through the Rhythm of things"; Mr. Binyon suggests "the fusion of the rhythm of the spirit with the movement of living things."

"At any rate," he says, "what is certainly meant is that the artist must pierce beneath the mere aspect of the world to seize and himself to be possessed by that great cosmic rhythm of the spirit which sets the currents of life in motion. We should say in Europe that he must seize the universal in the particular."

"The universal in the particular," that is what the greatest art expresses. It is a widespread consciousness of the universal in the particular that produces all great movements; and the history of their decline and fall is nothing more than a history of its gradual decay and disappearance. Great movements arise when men become aware suddenly that the universe has a soul; the first artists of a movement are the men who perceive most clearly this soul in every part of the universe: they are called Primitives. They are men driven to act by the intolerable necessity of expressing what they feel; they break silence only because they have something to say; and their one object is to say it as completely and intelligibly as possible. Primitives stand in a class by themselves because they have perceived more clearly than others the reality that lies beneath the superficial, and because, having no other end in view, they have expressed it more completely.

Great movements are alike in their beginnings; whether they are Buddhist or Byzantine, Greek or Egyptian, Assyrian or Mexican, their primitives have two qualities in common, profundity and directness. And in their histories, so far as we may judge from the scanty records of ancient civilizations, all have a general resemblance. Always, as the sense of reality decays, the artist labours to conceal under technical proficiency the poverty of his emotional experience. For the inspired artist technique was nothing but a means; for his hungry successors it becomes an end. For the man who has little to say, the manner of saying it gains consequence; and in a manner which has been elaborated into an intricate craft the greatest emotions cannot be expressed. The circle is vicious. With the exaltation and elaboration of craftsmanship, expression first falls into neglect, and then becomes impossible. Those who are not content to marvel at cleverness, but still ask emotion of art. must be satisfied with such as craftsmen can supply. If pictures no longer express feeling, they may at least provoke it. If painting is to be a mere question of combining lines and colours, at least let them be combined beautifully. Sensuous beauty and cunning delineation become rivals for the throne whence expression has been ousted. So, with occasional irregularities, the path winds down the hill. Skill itself declines, and the sense of beauty runs thin. At the bottom, for what once was art—the expression of man's most holy emotions—smart tradesmen offer, at fancy prices, mechanical prettiness, cheap sentiment, and accurate representation.

Comparisons between the history of Asiatic and of European art are admittedly possible; but as yet we believe the precise nature of the similarity has not been stated. It lies in the fact that both conform to the general laws of decay. The Asiatic movement with which we are familiar is essentially Buddhist; it ex-presses that sense of the universe that is expressed in another form by Buddhist doctrine and its later developments along the lines of Taoist idealism. How far the spread of Buddhism in China represents a spiritual reaction from the dry materialism of Confucianism is no matter for brief and dogmatic discussion. We need only say that the fourth-century painting in the British Museum by Ku K'ai-chih, though the artist himself is said to have been a Buddhist, belongs clearly to an earlier movement than that of which the T'ang masterpieces are the primitives. This charming and accomplished picture is, by comparison with early Buddhist art, so deficient in emotional significance that it is tempting to believe that it represents the ripe and highly cultivated decadence of a movement that the growing religious spirit was soon to displace. Slight as his acquaintance with this early art must be, an Englishman who visited regularly the exhibition at Shepherd's Bush was able to gather from eight or ten pictures, a couple of large wooden Bodhisattvas, and a few small figures in bronze, some idea of the way in which Japanese primitives could enter and express the world of reality. That same power he will find in the Byzantine mosaics of the sixth century, which express the earliest triumphs of another spiritual revolution over the cultured materialism of a moribund civilization.

The new movement spread slowly across Europe; before it had expressed itself in Norman architecture it had fallen at Constantinople into the first stage of decay, the stage in which craftsmanship and beauty are regarded as ends. The best was over in France before the twelfth century was out. Gothic architecture is juggling in stone and glass. In Italy Giotto followed Cimabue; and Giotto could not always resist the temptation to state the particular and leave the universal out. He sometimes tells us facts instead of expressing emotions. In the full Renaissance the coarsest feeling sufficed to flavour a handsome, well-made picture.

Meanwhile, under the Ming dynasty (1368-1644) Asiatic art had reached much the same stage. The Ming picture in the British Museum known as 'The

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Earthly Paradise' is inferior to the best work of Botticelli, with which it is commonly compared, but reminds us, in its finished grace and gaiety, of a painting by Watteau. The eighteenth century, one inclines to believe, was the same everywhere. Stylistic obsession and the lust for material beauty ended in mechanical prettiness, altogether inexpressive or sentimental. In both hemispheres painting was reduced to a formula—a formula for producing elegant furniture.

But even in the age of decay Oriental art retained traces of primitive splendour. It never sank into mere representation. The men who turned out the popular Japanese colour-prints, though they chose the same subjects as the Dutch genre painters, were artists enough to treat them differently, and to look for some-thing significant beneath the mass of irrelevant accidents. Also they preserved a nicer sensibility to material beauty. A cheap Japanese print has sometimes the quality of a painting by Whistler. Indeed, the superiority of the Orientals is discreetly insinuated from beginning to end of Mr. Binyon's essay. Equal, if not superior, to the Greek or Christian in the primitive stage, the Asiatic movement clung to the heights longer, sank more gradually, and never sank so low. These facts are painful, but patent; they require explanation.

Why is Oriental art generally superior to European? Bearing in mind what has been said about the nature of the greatest art, we shall expect it to be because in the East they have kept in closer touch with reality. That is precisely what has with reality. That is precisely what has happened. The emotional life has never been in the East what it has become in the West, the rare possession of a fortunate few. There the practical life has been kept subordinate, a means to supporting the emotional. In China men still go about their business that they may purchase leisure in which to contemplate reality. But reality is banished from the practical life, for the practical man regards all, things as means, instead of contemplating them as ends. He sees just what is of use to him, and no more. He sees enough for identification and recognition; in fact, he reads the labels on things. The labels are all he requires. In the emotional life things are valued for their significance—for what they are, not for what they can be made to do; they are seen whole because they are seen as ends. The practical man sees only a part—the part that serves his purpose. The camera sees more than that, it sees all the details; but it cannot see the spirit—that has to be felt.

Most Europeans think of boats as means of locomotion, of apples as eatables. They recognize such things by their serviceable qualities; their individuality, the universal in these particulars, escapes them. In a picture of a boat, an apple, or a woman they look for those unessential qualities which minister to their pleasure, and of which alone they are aware. The cleverness of

a man who can paint fruit that tempts urchins impresses them; but the artist who feels, and tries to express, the soul of fruit and flowers they take for an incompetent dunce or a charlatan.

"One might say that man has been a monarch, looking to his subject-world only for service and for flattery, and just because of this lordly attitude he has failed to understand that subject-world, and, even more, has failed to understand himself."

In the East men have ever set the emotional above the practical life, and the artists have excelled in expressing the very essence of material things because they expressed what they felt, instead of representing what the ordinary man sees. They have felt that if the spirit informs all, then all must have individual significance. To see things as means is to see what is most useful and least important about them. To see things as ends is to be shockingly unpractical; it is to see God in everything; it is to exalt the spirit above the flesh; it is not the way to "get on"; but it is the only way to produce significant art, and, indeed, it is only on such terms that life itself signifies.

So far we have admitted the superiority of the East; the last word has yet to be said. Few observant people will deny that there are signs of an awakening in Europe. The times are great with the birth of some new thing. A spiritual renaissance may be at hand. Meanwhile, we are not suffered to ignore the huge strides in material progress that are the chief glory of modern Japan; nor have we failed to remark that the latest art to reach us from that country proved, when displayed with some ostentation at Shepherd's Bush, equal in vulgarity of sentiment, flashiness of execution, and apelike imitation to the worst that can be seen at Burlington House. Philistinism, it seems, finds ready converts on the other side of the globe. Let the spokesmen of the young and bustling empire be heard. Shiba Kokan, the pupil of Harunobu, says in his 'Confessions':—

"In Occidental art objects are copied directly from nature; hence before a landscape one feels as if one were placed in the midst of nature. There is a wonderful apparatus called the photograph, which gives a facsimile copy of the object, whatever it is, to which it is directed. Nothing which has not actually been seen is sketched, nor is a nameless landscape reproduced, as we often see done in Chinese productions.... A painting which is not a faithful copy of nature has neither beauty nor is worthy of the name."

And this is the considered judgment of that popular modern painter Okio:—

"The use of art is to produce copies of things, and if an artist has a thorough knowledge of the properties of the thing he paints, he can assuredly make a name.... Without the true depiction of objects there can be no pictorial art. Nobility of sentiment and such-like only come after a successful delineation of the external form of an object."

Such men would be less at home in the world of reality than a saint would be in Wall Street; for he would perceive the spark of the universal in the particular stockjobber, whereas the stockjobber and his friend the delineator are blind to anything that is not on the surface. Japan, we are told, is to shape the future of the Eastern hemisphere. Japan is "forging ahead." Already she has set her hand to the task of civilizing, that is to say, Europeanizing, China-just at the moment when Europe is coming to loathe her own grossness. Time is the master of paradox. Who shall say what surprises are too fantastic for his contriving? Can the classic distinction between East and West, that venerable mother of trite reflections and bad arguments, be, after all, mutable? Is the unchanging East changeable? Is Mr. Kipling's thrilling line no more than the statement of a geographical truism? England, they tell us, was once a tropical forest; London may yet be the spiritual capital of the world, while Asia—rich in all that gold can buy and guns can give, lord of lands and bodies, builder of railways and promulgator of police regulations, glorious in all material gloriespostures, complacent and obtuse, before a Europe content in the possession of all that matters.

THE EXHIBITION OF OLD MASTERS.

THE EXHIBITION OF OLD MASTERS at the Grafton Galleries, in aid of the National Art-Collections Fund, is but the logical outcome of the movement initiated exactly two years ago, in seemingly similar, but in reality different circumstances, to augment the funds at the disposal of the National Gallery. The Executive Committee of the present exhibition have clearly been no less concerned with the educational aspects of the situation than with the fare which they have provided to attract the patronage of the shilling-paying public. That the opening ceremony should have been performed by members of the Royal family, while the King also lends paintings that are among the greatest treasures in the royal collection, are circumstances that augur well for success.

Again, that eight of the Trustees of the
National Gallery should be on the General Committee; that six of their number are among the contributors of paintings or drawings; and that the two most recently appointed have made speeches urging the Government to make a considerable increase in the annual grant to the National Gallery, are circumstances which must not be lost sight of. It will be remembered that there was a certain apathy and faintheartedness in the earlier stages of the inauguration of the exhibition two years but past success has engendered a 820: very different feeling this year. The contention of Sir Edgar Vincent, the Chairman of the Committee, that "a generous art policy was the soundest finance," leads us to hope that the National Gallery is about to enter upon a new phase of activity.

On entering the first room (which is given up almost entirely to Italian primitives), the visitor will perhaps feel that he is in a "sanctuary swept and garnished," to borrow an expression that has been used by one writer

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on early Sienese art, examples of which are immediately encountered. Cuspidi that until recently were missing from the large polyptych that, according to Vasari, was painted by Ugolino da Siena for the high altar of Santa Croce at Siena; separated parts from the 'Maestà' painted by Duccio for the Cathedral at Siena, and now in part dismembered; and predella-shaped panels of the earlier phases of Italian pre-Renaissance art, prove how satisfactorily the painters of the fourteenth century acquitted themselves of the task that the mediæval mind demanded of them.

It is, perhaps, to be regretted that the excellent effect resulting from the grouping in one room, and for the most part in chronological order, of nearly all the Florentine and Sienese pictures, did not lead Mr. Roger Fry, who is mainly responsible for the hanging, to adopt the same method of arrangement throughout the exhibition. If tradition had been thrown over, and the natural sequence of classification by country, school, and period followed, the student would have been better provided for and saved much time and energy, while the mere dilettante would have had no real ground of complaint. It is, however, a matter for congratulation that the paintings submitted have been allotted more space, and, with the exception of half a dozen unimportant pictures, hung in a single line. The placing of the very large lunette by Signorelli above a doorway was a wise course to adopt.

It is incontestable that the outstanding feature among the hundred and sixteen paintings now shown is the 'Madonna and Child enthroned with Angels' by Masaccio, the discovery of which, when passing under another name in a country vicarage, by Mr. Berenson has more than once been commented on in *The Athenœum*, notably on January 30th, 1909, at the time of its reproduction in the 'Arundel Club Portfolio.' So far as panel pictures are concerned, the newly recognized 'Madonna,' together with the 'Madonna' in the Florence Aca-demy and the 'Presentation in the Temple' in the collection of Mrs. Gardner of Boston. U.S.A., is the connecting link between the art of Giotto in the fourteenth century and Raphael in the sixteenth. In all probability this is the last opportunity that the National Gallery will have of acquiring anything from the hand of the rarest and most short-lived among the fourteenth-century Tuscans, who has been well described as "a creator and worshipper of the heroic style who disdains individual expression, cares little for beauty, is never tender, but always majestic, aloof, almost awe-inspiring." It will no longer be questioned that this panel, which is in a bad state, riddled with wormholes, and in urgent need of the restorer's careful handling, originally formed the centre part of the altarpiece that Masaccio executed two years before his death for the church of the Carmine at Pisa. It will be recalled that the late Mr. Charles Butler owned four panels of saints from the predella of the present work. He in fact purchased them in Pisa some thirty years ago for 10%, and in recent years sold them to a private dealer in London, who offered them at a small profit to the National Gallery, a former Director of which, after mature consideration of the proposal, declined to purchase them. The Director of the Kaiser Friedrich Museum, which now possesses them, had no misgivings as to the desirability of their purchase, and telegraphed back without delay that he would buy them. It will be a lasting disgrace to this country if the present panel, the financial value of which is inconsiderable, is exported.

One of the most imposing pictures in the

exhibition is the 'St. Michael overcoming Satan, with the Figure of a kneeling Donor,' by that very rare, but highly esteemed Cordovan painter Bartolommeo Vermejo; it comes from the collection of Sir Julius Wernher. The picture, which is painted on three vertical panels, and was imported into England only eight years ago under the name of another painter, is in a pure state, although some of the stamped and patterned gold background has worn off and now reveals the red under-painting. Its authenticity is vouched for by the signature, which, however, for a brief period baffled the most advanced authorities on Spanish art. The sense of pattern and rhythm that the composition contains could not be better exemplified than by the way in which it has lent itself, in the hands of Mr. Fry, as the basis of the design for the official poster of the exhibition.

To 'The Holy Family' of Fra Bartolommeo has justly been assigned the place of honour in the principal gallery. This, the finest work of the master in England, recalls the composition in reverse of the defectively modelled and altogether unsatisfactory picture that stands to his credit in the National Gallery. The Panshanger picture also contrasts most favourably with the exaggerated movement, unrest, and want of peace in the hitherto unexhibited, and until a short time ago unpublished, panels of 'Moses striking the Rock' and 'The Worship of the Golden Calt,' by Filippino Lippi, that have been sent from Sir Henry Samuelson's collection at Esher.

The two hitherto unshown Gainsborough female portraits afford an excellent opportunity for the study of the British painter's art, being placed at either end of the scale of his activity in Bath and London. Two very decorative, if somewhat over-scenic compositions by Guardi; a magnificently coloured Poussin; an over-sweet Romney female portrait; an unprepossessing Venetian Senator by Tintoretto; an early and delightful Reynolds double-portrait from the collection of Lord Crewe; a bad, but perhaps no less popular, Romney group of a lady and her four children; a cold Moroni male portrait; three excellent Rembrandts, ranging from 1631 to 1657; a Goya (No. 52) which gives forth a rather strident note; an over-solid and unrelenting 'Cardinal' by Sassoferrato or some one in his immediate entourage; and a 'Portrait Group of a Lady and her Three Children' by Watts, in which an indocile attempt is made to give a false elegance to an Early Victorian setting—all these will repay study in the Large Gallery.

It is not too much to say that, if the Flemish, Dutch, and English landscapes in the Central Gallery are examined exhaustively, together with the primitive Italians that have been already referred to, it will be found a simple task to reconstruct, along broad lines, the gradual evolution and varied treatment of landscape painting. From Rubens to Siberechts, and from Duccio to Turner, is a long period to cover, but the essential steps are clear to see. Philips de Koninck is once more shown to be a greater master of landscape than some have hitherto supposed. The so-called 'Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk,' which is tentatively assigned to Holbein, but recalls the 'Portrait of Edmund Butts' by John Bettes in the National Gallery; a Savoldo-esque 'Sculp-tor,' loosely ascribed to Giorgione; the Clouet which passed at the Exhibition of French Primitives as the work of Quesnel; two masterly Jan Steens; two quite representative Terborchs, and a precious panel portrait of 'Leonello d'Este' by Rogier van

der Weyden, will be observed at some length in the Central Gallery, beyond which the visitor need not go in his exhaustive inquiry into the history of painting, as here exemplified, with, of course, the single exception of the wings of the 'Trinity' altarpiece by Hugo van der Goes, that have not been shown since the Stuart exhibition held in 1889. This altarpiece, lent from the Royal Collection at Holyrood, might with advantage pass into the restorer's hand at the the present exhibition. triptych that was described as having been "doune by Joan Vanek" seems to have been brought to London in or about 1625. Its attribution to Mabuse, when at Manchester, is but another example of the irresponsible methods in vogue in past times in regard to the identification of important works. On two panels of fir. coated with gypsum and painted on both sides, they are hardly inferior to the Portinari altarpiece by the same artist. The latter, however, still has its central panel, but the triptych in the royal collection has lacked its centre picture for a long period. The collegiate church of the Holy Trinity, Edinburgh, for which the altarpiece was commissioned by Sir Edward Boncle, or Bonkil, about 1473, was taken down about 1848 to make room for the erection of Waver-

A well-chosen selection of Dutch drawings, to the exclusion of Rembrandt, from the large collection of Mr. J. P. Heseltine, and a thoroughly representative selection of British water-colours, including some of the famous works of Turner from the collection of Mr. Fawkes of Farnley, complete an exhibition, the success of which should prove commensurate with the work involved on the part of those who are responsible for the undertaking.

MEMORIAL EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF F. J. SHIELDS.

A REPRESENTATIVE collection of the work of an artist who for the greater part of his life was out of touch with his contemporaries makes always a somewhat melancholy impression; yet sometimes this feeling is corrected by the conviction that a later generation will atone for this indifference, and that the efforts of the dead artist will have a far-reaching posthumous influence. In the case of Frederick Shields we do not feel this very confidently, and have a dreary sense, if not of utter waste, yet of a woeful disproportion between the achievement and its cost in human life.

If cruel privations and tragic circumstances sufficed to make a genius, the youth of Frederick Shields should have been an adequate apprenticeship. Perhaps, indeed, it was to this that he owed the wave of inspiration in which, about his thirtieth year, he produced the fine illustrations to Defoe's 'History of the Plague.' Certainly it was in the same school of adversity that he developed the indomitable industry and resolution which enabled him to carry on a thirty years' task with touching loyalty to a narrow and scholastic ideal, long ago discredited with the more critical section of artistic opinion. There is no need to-day to utilize this exhibition at the Alpine Club Galleries as a deterrent. We have fully realized that the heroic virtues of grit and perseverance in the overcoming of difficulties do not suffice to produce art, which is often born of ease and amenity, if it be not indeed, to our most modern sense, the offspring gth

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of general moral laxity and complete rejec-tion of discipline. As an example to the youth of our day, on the other hand, we do not think this collection is likely to be of much service. It is not that the work has nothing to teach, but we are under no illusion about the readiness of artists of our generation to learn from it. It will but confirm them in the scorn for academic training, the facile assumption of which marks modern criticism so shallow and irresponsible. criticism may present the work of Frederick Shields as an example of the vanity of the most strenuous endeavour to "renew an outworn tradition." It is, as a fact, nothing of the sort. It represents the workings of a provincial mind which, except in occasional flashes of inspiration, never penetrated the mysteries of scholarly painting. Shields was certainly a painstaking draughtsman of the single figures which he and his fellowcartoonists accumulated with such misplaced industry. He was a diligent student of anatomy, of which, however, his observation was neither lively nor profound. But of the use of tone as symbolical of space he had no inkling. He was, as a rule, quite incapable of adapting a unit of scale or of angular measurement to the whole group of figures he was handling rather than to a single one of its component figures. Of the whole grammar of traditional painting which, in however debased a form, is implicit in Renascence work, he was as innocent as ultra-modern would-be painter of to-day.

We confess we are somewhat uneasy lest this exhibition, eloquent of a narrow and incomplete artistic education, should be perverted into an argument against scholarship in painting. An unfortunate artist, even his memorial exhibition is ill-timed. Struggling through frightful difficulties to brief expression, armoured by generous but hardly critical patronage against further intellectual development, Shields seems destined to plunge again into unkind oblivion. Doubtless in his work there is hidden much that is of value, but when next will there be a public with the sympathy to

disengage it?

ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES.

The current number of Sir Gaston Maspero's Recueil de Travaux contains an important article by Dr. Edouard Naville on the primitive population of Egypt. After remarking that the supposed Asiatic origin of the Egyptians is now given up by all scholars save those German ones who think Egyptian a "Semitic tongue which oddly enough begins by decomposition," M. Naville goes on to show that, before any possible invasion, there must have been a palæonithic population in Egyptwhich was probably autochthonous. The prehistoric people descended from them he believes to be distinguished by burial in the crouched position, by pottery, and particularly by paintings like those on the Nagadah vases showing the so-called "boats," which he—following the so-called "boats," which he—following the since a support of the same authority, conquered about the beginning of dynastic times by other Hamites, who came from the Upper Nile and were of the same race as the conquered, but were distinguished by the possession of metal weapons and instruments. These

gradually became merged in the autochthonous population, but towards the end of the Third Dynasty a change took place in the beliefs of the people which led to the introduction of burials in the extended positions, and eventually of mummification. M. Naville does not tell us what, in his opinion, brought about the change; but he thinks the other facts are established by the researches of Dr. Reisner in Lower Nubia as interpreted by Prof. Elliot Smith, by those of Dr. Möller at Abusir-el-Melek, and finally by his own at Abydos. The whole article is a well-reasoned contribution to a very important question.

the current number of the Revue Archéologique the Russian scholar Prof. B. Touraieff draws attention to a number of small Egyptian antiquities discovered in Russia. As he points out, the northern shores of the Black Sea were in fairly direct communication with Egypt at an early date; and it is here that scarabs, miniature figures of gods such as Bes, Harpocrates, and Thoth, and amulets and ornaments of Egyptian design have been found in considerable numbers. The Crimea has also yielded a rich harvest of similar objects, many of which are in Prof. Touraieff's own collection. Most of these are dated not earlier than the Saite Dynasty, and it is curious that they are often accompanied by what seem to be imitations made (probably by Greek work-men) on the spot. But similar objects are now beginning to come in from the south of Russia proper, and Prof. Touraieff quotes many examples of figures of Osiris, ushabtis (sometimes inscribed), scarabs, and engraved cylinders found in the Government of Kieff and even in the Provinces of Perm and the Ural. He explains their presence first by the wide spread (now beginning to be recognized), of the worship of the Alexandrian divinities, and next by the existence of archæologists, or collectors of antiquities, in the Greek towns of the Crimea. Many of the smaller objects he thinks were brought into Russia for magical or superstitious reasons; and he quotes a Russian word for finger-rings with seals engraved on stones therein which signifies "beetle," and was used in the Crimea so far back, he assures us, as the fourteenth century. This seems good evidence, not only that the importers of Egyptian scarabs were quite aware of their but also of the fact that the engraved scarab was, in its native country, used as a signet and as nothing else.

The last issue of the Revue des Études Anciennes contains an excellent paper by M. A. Cuny on the Disk of Phæstus, in which that curious monument is fully described and reproduced in legible fashion. ostensible object of the paper is to call attention to the commas or virgules which appear between the several groups of signs, and for the existence of which different scholars have given very different reasons. Thus M. Adolphe Reinach thinks they serve the same purpose as our punctuation marks, Signor A. della Seta that they were determinatives, and Prof. E. Meyer that they were the equivalents of the Sanskrit virama. Cuny believes that they are merely division marks, and, by an elaborate analysis of the hieroglyphs of the main inscription, he succeeds in showing that these were not used. so to speak, normally, or to form sentences to be read by every one acquainted with the script, but are, on the contrary, cryptograms having a magical or quasi-religious meaning. Following Sir Arthur Evans, he decides that there is here no specimen of Cretan writing; but that the disk is of Anatolian and perhaps Lycian origin. He accepts M. Reinach's proof that the inscription must be read from the circumference to the centre, and from right to left, and the opinion of every one who has examined it personally that the forty-five signs which it bears were impressed with a die or stamp while the clay was wet. He considers, therefore, that the object was made in some sanctuary in Asia Minor for sale as an amulet; and he thinks it likely that it contains the names of gods written in several different ways. Most scholars will be inclined to agree with him and the excellent bibliography in miniature which accompanies the article makes it easy to check his conclusions.

The story of Hippolytus, familiarized by Racine, has long been a puzzle to mythologists; and its hero has often been identified with the sun and the other keys with which the Hellenists of last century tried to unlock all doors. M. Louis Séchan in the current number of the Revue des Études Grecques devotes to it an exhaustive paper, in which he points out that the cult rendered to the hero at Træzen affords the only real clue to the mystery. He agrees in the main with Prof. Wilamowitz-Moellendorff that the sacrifice of their hair which the maidens of Træzen used to make to the hero just before their nuptials is to be explained by the fear naturally felt by a Greek girl on exchanging her virgin freedom for the retired life of the gynæceum; but he is of opinion that behind all this rests the figure of an older god, the tutelary deity of youth, to whom both sexes were accustomed to sacrifice before matri-It is for this reason, he thinks, that the god was depicted as dying soon after maturity, and he will have nothing to do with M. Salomon Reinach's theory that the hero later called Hippolytus was originally a horse, as Actæon was a stag and Orpheus a fox. On the other hand, he is by no means sure that Euripides does not intend an allusion to the Orphic sect when he depicts Hippolytus as abstaining from food that has had life and maintaining an inviolable chastity; and he quotes some curious evidence as to his introduction into Latium as that Virbius who was the associate of the Diana of Nemi.

In the same number M. A. de Ridder continues his valuable 'Bulletin Archéologique,' which gives one, in effect, a detailed catalogue of all the excavations that have taken place during the last few years and the memoirs in which they are described or commented upon. One is glad to see that he supports the theory' that the mummy of Alexander the Great, after its third and last translation under Ptolemy IV. Philopator in 215 B.C., was buried in the sumptuous mausoleum, the site of which is now represented by the Kôm-ed-Dik at Alexandria. The very recent building of a new fort on the site and the presence there of the Mosque of Daniel provide the great conqueror's dust with a double guarantee against disturbance.

Another paragraph in the 'Bulletin' is devoted to a sarcophagus lately discovered at Torre Nova on the Via Labicana. It comes, according to M. de Ridder, from Asia Minor, and has three panels sculptured in relief with scenes from the Eleusinian Mysteries, including the purification of an initiate by an hierophant in the presence of the Sacred Triad, Iacchos, and Hecate. The initiate seems in this case to be Heracles, which perhaps accounts for the scene being allowed to be reproduced.

In the Mélanges d'Archéologie et d'Histoire issued by the French School at Rome Monseigneur Duchesne has an interesting article on the Quatuor Coronati, who were frequently adopted as patron saints by masons and workers in stone. He traces

their cult to four Christians employed in the stone quarries at Fruschka Gora, to the north of Sirmium, who suffered in the persecution of Diocletian, and whose bodies were later translated to Rome and buried in a cemetery near the Villa Ad duos lauros. Even before this, a cult of them existed in Rome, and their names were up to the ninth century always given as Sempronianus, Nicostratus, Claudius, and Castorius. worship was introduced into England, according to Bede, by the Roman missionaries. Later, they became confused with many other saints, especially with those immortalized by a Pannonian legend which raised the number of the martyrs to five. The identification of the Quatuor Coronati with the four martyrs of Albano-Secundus. Severianus, Carpophorus, and Victorinus Monseigneur Duchesne rejects utterly. The manner of their death is told in three different ways, one story being that they were thrown into the sea, another that they died under the lash of a whip with balls of lead in its tails, and the third that they were put into leaden cases and thrown into the river.

CONGRESS OF THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,

FIFTEEN years ago the British Archæological Association held a London Congress, of which only two days were devoted to London; and this was followed eight years ago, by a Westminster Congress, of which only one day was given to Westminster. This year's Congress, held in conjunction with the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, was of a very different kind. The whole of last week was devoted to London, the idea being to secure, as far as practicable, a chronological survey and perambulation of London and its antiquities, for the most part under the able guidance of Mr. Allen S. Walker, the Hon. Secretary.

The members assembled on Monday morning in the Masonic Hall of the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, and were welcomed by Mr. C. E. Keyser, President of the Association, and Sir Edward Brabrook, President of the London and Middlesex Society.

In his opening address Mr. Keyser deplored the necessity for the removal of Temple Bar to Theobalds Park, and of Crosby Hall to Chelsea, and referred to the proposed removal of Glastonbury Abbey to America, a calamity which he rejoiced had been averted, and to the threatened removal of Tattershall Castle to the same continent, which he hoped might yet also be prevented.

The afternoon work began with a visit to the remains of the Roman Wall discovered in the foundations of the General Post Office. Mr. A. S. Walker indicated the course taken by the Wall as far as the Tower of London. As to the origin of the city, he laid emphasis on one fact which escaped the casual student of London history, viz., that the whole of the British names which remained were associated with water —the Thames, the Fleet, Dowgate, Billingsgate, and Ludgate, or Flood-gate. curious that much more was left of Roman than of Saxon London—the Saxon finds had very few. The remains of Roman buildings were clumsy and rough, and not to be compared with Silchester, Uriconium, and other Roman cities. The remains of the Wall at the General Post Office are those of a bastion, and the interesting feature is that it is the only one found turning a corner where the Wall runs round. The bastion had no proper connexion with the Wall. At the Guildhall Museum, which was next visited, Mr. Lambert, the Curator, described the Roman remains, including the statue of the warrior found in the bastion in Camomile Street, and the tessellated pavement discovered at a depth of 23 feet in Bucklersbury in 1869. A fine strip of the Roman Wall was next visited at Barber's Bonded Warehouse in Trinity Square; and a visit to the Roman bath in Strand Lane concluded the afternoon's proceedings.

Tuesday was devoted to Norman London, and the members met at the Tower, where Mr. Walker resumed his chronological survey. He pointed out that the Tower was the fulfilment of the promise made by William the Conqueror to the citizens of London that he would defend their city. It was erected outside the Wall, and the tower known as the White Tower was the first portion built—before the enclosing curtain wall and other parts. Hence it is that we always speak of the Tower of London never of the Castle. That the original work in the White Tower is all of the eleventh century is proved by the very wide mortaring between the courses of stone.

In the museum, formerly the banqueting hall, the great hearth discovered in 1894 was pointed out. Visits were paid to parts of the Tower not usually open to the public, including the crypt of the chapel, which contains Sir Walter Raleigh's cell. Here also is now to be seen the figure of Queen Elizabeth on horseback on her way to St. Paul's to return thanks for the defeat of the Spanish Armada. The robe is the original one worn by the Queen, and it was suggested that the figure should be put under glass, to avoid the corroding influences of light, air, and dust.

The remainder of the day was occupied with visits to those of the City churches which have Norman remains or associations, such as All-Hallows-by-the-Tower, St. Olave's, Hart Street, St. Mary-le-Bow, St. Bartholomew's the Great, and St. John's, Clerkenwell. The first-named has Norman work at the west end. It was preserved at the time of the Great Fire by the action of Samuel Pepys, who, in order to save the Navy Office, had the neighbouring buildings blown up. St. Olave's, Hart Street, one of the smallest churches in the City, was described by Mr. Bryan Corcoran. The position of the gallery, through which Samuel Pepys passed to get to the Navy pew, the four sword-rests, and the curious ironwork on each side of the organ are interesting features.

A visit was next paid to the curious little Norman crypt in All Hallows Staining churchyard, which was removed from Cripplegate, and is preserved by the Clothworkers' Company. It was formerly known as the Hermitage of St. James-in-the-Wall. At St. Mary-le-Bow, once the centre of the Saxon City, Mr. Walker held that the Norman crypt was never a church, but intended originally to support the church above, as at Canterbury and Gloucester. The magnificent church of St. Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield, of which only the choir with its beautiful apsidal east end remains, was next visited. Here was seen for the first time one of the great Norman religious buildings of London; the others have disappeared.

It is gratifying to notice that Sir Aston Webb in his restoration has retained the beauties of the original architecture. St. John's, Clerkenwell, which belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and where the original round nave has entirely disappeared, concluded the day spent in Norman

On Wednesday the perambulation of Mediæval London began with a visit to the Chapel of St. Etheldreda, Ely Place. Here Mr. Walker gave an outline of the civil history of London and the origin of the guilds. St. Etheldreda's, dedicated in the name of the daughter of King Anna, the foundress of Ely, is a perfect example of Decorated work at its best, and dates from 1265. It survived the dissolution unharmed, being the private chapel of the Bishop of Ely. Recently the chapel has been bought by the Fathers of Charity. In the porch is a holy-water stoup of Norman date, found in the crypt; there are only four others like it known, of which one is used as a flower-pot at Fulham.

St. Giles's, Cripplegate, was next visited. Here the original Perpendicular building remains in spite of a devastating fire in 1545. The church has many interesting historical associations; but St. Alphege, London Wall, provided the most attractive feature in the day's proceedings in the thirteenth-century porch, the discovery of which is due to the efforts of the Rev. Glendinning Nash, the present Vicar. This porch is the only portion of a hospital of mediæval date remaining in London, and it is to be hoped that its discovery will make the threatened destruction of the church impossible. The founder of the hospital was named Elsing, and it was known as "Elsing's spital."

At the Dutch Church, Austin Friars, which was next visited, Mr. Walker gave an account of the 'Coming of the Friars,' and Mr. W. A. Cater described the recent excavations, which have revealed the site of the great cloister. The windows and areade of the church date from 1370. St. Ethelburga's, Bishopsgate, was described by Dr. Cobb, the Rector, who said the original church was built about the date of the burning of Jeanne d'Arc, but little of it is left. At St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, a paper was read by Mr. Harvey Barton, who has been connected with the parish for 44 years as vestry clerk. This was the church of a Benedictine nunnery, and from the number of its monuments it is known as "the Westminster of the City."

The day's proceedings concluded with a visit to the Charterhouse, where the Master, the Rev. G. S. Davies, gave an historical sketch of the monastic establishment, largely from material discovered by himself.

The tour of Mediæval London was continued on Thursday by a visit to the renovated Cathedral of St. Saviour's, Southwark, its history being sketched by Canon Rhodes Bristow. Mr. Walker conducted the visitors round the building, and pointed out its architectural details. The choir of St. Bartholomew's the Great, he said, shows us what the original Augustinian church must have been; and the nave here shows us what the destroyed nave of St. Bartholomew's was. The choir is the original Early English choir, and the nave has been excellently restored in the same style by Blomfield. The retro-choir, now a parish church, is a beautiful example of Early English, with Decorated additions.

The Old Parish Church, Chelsea, the only "village" church left in London, was next visited. The word expresses exactly the impression the church gives as one enters it. The choir is original, of the fourteenth century; the nave is of about 1667. It is an anticipation of the City churches, and shows an attempt at Gothic. It was restored by Scott.

An adjournment was made for lunch to Crosby Hall, which looks very forlorn in its new surroundings, but that it has been only
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preserved, even though shorn of its former grandeur, is a matter of thankfulness to all lovers of the past. Mr. Walker told its story, and mentioned the famous people connected with it. Sir Thomas More, who sold the property to Dr. Bonvisi, addressed his last letters from the Tower to Crosby Hall, and it is interesting to note that after many vicissitudes—it has been a gambling house, a saltpetre refinery for the East India Company, a meeting-house, and a restaurant—it has been re-erected in More's old garden at Chelsea. As an example of a fifteenth-century banqueting room it is almost without equal in the South of England. Only Eltham Palace can be compared with it. The workmanship is perfect, and the re-erection has been skilfully carried out.

Friday morning was spent in the company of the lawyers, whose "Inns" provide the best examples of Tudor work to be found in London. At Gray's Inn Mr. Walker again took charge. This, as he explained, was formerly the manor of Portpool, belonging to the Lords Grey. The Great Hall, built in the reign of Mary, is one of the most perfect "Elizabethan" (Mary does not figure in architecture) halls in London. Its hammer-beam roof is magnificent.

The next visit was to Staple Inn, where Dr. T. Cato Worsfold read a paper. Staple Inn was built to accommodate the overflow of lawyers and law students from the neighbouring Inns. It now belongs to the Prudential Assurance Company, who are taking good care of it, especially of its façade, "that one bit of Tudor timberwork left to us."

At Lincoln's Inn Mr. Walker explained that it was originally the town house of the Bishops of Chichester. The Chapel is Inigo Jones's work, and the columns and groining of the sub-chapel or burial-place are specially noticeable, for in them the architect has attempted to combine Gothic with Renaissance work. In the lobby of the modern hall—built in 1843—are to be seen an interesting little Greek archaic figure of the seventh century B.C., found on the spot—probably the property of a Roman collector—and an example of a curse engraved on a leaden tablet in these words: "May nothing prosper or goe forward that Raufe Scrope taketh in hand"!

At the Middle Temple there was much to interest. It was given to the Knights Hospitallers when the Templars were dissolved, and leased to the law students for £10 a year. The screen in the Hall is the finest Renaissance screen in London. The Temple Church took us back to the Norman period, and its fine doorway and round nave are most impressive. In the nave we have an example of Transitional work—pointed arches in the arcade, and round-headed windows below. Pointed arches were first employed for utility in vaulting, then for beauty.

The afternoon was occupied with visits to St. Andrew Undershaft—celebrated for the tomb of John Stow, the father of London topography, and one of the last churches built in the Gothic style in London—and to Canonbury Tower, the country house of Sir John Spencer, and one of the most perfect Elizabethan houses in London.

Saturday was devoted to Georgian London, the churches visited being St. Mary Aldermary and St. Stephen's, Walbrook, with a concluding visit to the Mansion House.

THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL PARK OF ROME.

As the executive member of the Royal Committee for the new Archæological Park (Commissione reale per la zona Monumentale di Roma), I have been asked over and over again to explain what is the purpose of the scheme, and how and when we expect to have it carried into execution. The Romans themselves, let alone the outside world, have only a vague notion of the condition of things; and a feeling of mistrust about the whole affair still lurks at home and abroad. I cannot ignore the fact that mistakes may have been made at the beginning, and valuable time may have been lost in rescuing the land from greedy private owners, and in laying out a definite plan which, while answering the purpose of the law voted by Parliament, should not interfere with traffic, or fetter the freedom of movement of the six hundred thousand inhabitants of the city.

Let me state at the outset that the object of the law is to secure-for archæological, historical, æsthetic, and artistic reasonsmuch classic ground as the six and a half million lire placed at our disposal will allow us to rescue within certain limits of space set down by Parliament. Whether there will be a margin left for the actual layingout of a park, with groves of classic trees, and avenues and shady lanes connecting the various points of interest, is a matter of secondary importance. Whether or not we succeed in carrying out this secondary part of the scheme is a question of time and money, not of feasibility, once the ground has become the property of the nation. However, I am glad to state that, by careful management of the funds of the Royal Committee, of which Guido Baccelli, the veteran benefactor of Rome, is the President, six hundred acres have already been secured, and that the main outlines of the Park have already been laid out. It will be opened undoubtedly in the spring of the coming year.

The "Passeggiata Archeologica," as the Park is popularly called, includes the whole length of the Sacra Via, from the Capitol to the Coliseum, the Imperial Fora, the Palace of the Cæsars, the Baths of Titus and Trajan, the northern and western slopes of the Celian, the eastern and southern slopes of the lesser Aventine, and the valley between these hills, from the Circus Maximus to the three gates of the Aurelian Wall, the Metronia, the Latina, and the Appia. There is no need of enumerating the monuments of worldwide interest which make this land unique. The Palace of the Casars, the Forum, the Amphitheatre, the Temple of Claudius, the Baths of Caracalla, the Servian walls, the Nymphæum of Juturna, the crypt of the Scipios, the Columbaria of Hylas, those of the Vigna Codini, the great gates of Aurelian and Honorius, speak of the golden days of pagan Rome, just as the venerable churches of SS. Giovanni e Paolo, of S. Gregorio, of SS. Nereo e Achilleo, of S. Cesario, of S. Sisto Vecchio, speak of the golden days of Christianity. But how the golden days of Christianity. But how many more interesting relics of both ages may still be found under that sacred soil! and what surprises may still be awaiting the future explorers of this National Park!

The main difficulty to be overcome was to lay out the ground without interfering with traffic, of which there are two lines crossing each other at a right angle by the Septizonium (la Moletta): one from south to north, viz., from the gate of S. Sebastiano

to the heart of the city, with an average of 2,400 carts and carriages per diem; one from east to west and vice versa, with an average of 2,100 vehicles, going to or coming from the gate of S. Paolo and the Testaccio. Try as we might, we have to face this condition of things: the Park must be cut into four sections by these two lines, which must remain free for traffic by day and night. Whether the four sections will be connected by subways or by bridges spanning the public roads is a problem still under consideration. At all events, these public roads will be so concealed by green lines of shrubs and trees, and by undulations of the ground, that visitors to the Park will hardly be able to notice them. We intend also to mask in the same way the boundary walls, wherever they exist, so as to give the illusion that the Park extends beyond its own limits, as in the case of the adjoining Villa Celimontana (Mattei) and Vigna Guerrieri. Six thousand trees have already been planted—stone pines, cypresses, oaks, ilexes, and laurels, some of which have unfortunately been killed by the overwhelming heat and drought of the summer. I may also remark that the experiment of transplanting stone pines thirty or forty feet high has proved unsuccessful. At all events, the pine and oak groves of the ex-nursery grounds near the church of San Sisto Vecchio, as beautiful a group of timber as can be found in any of the old Roman villas, give us a good starting-point for our plantations.

The clou of the scheme is the reconstruction of the classic garden of the Baths of Caracalla, which once occupied the space between the Caldarium and the west enclosure, where the reservoirs for hot and cold water were placed. It is a flat stretch of ground, twelve hundred feet wide, six hundred long, once cut in squares by a hundred long, once cut in squares by a network of paths crossing each other at right angles, and lined with walls of laurel, myrtle, and box. The lines of the paths are fortunately marked by the skylights giving light and air to the subterranean passages connecting the central building with the reservoirs. To gain this end we must first remove a mass of rubbish, estimated at a hundred and fifty thousand cubic mated at a hundred and fifty thousand cubic yards, and dump it half a mile off into the hollow of the Decennia Palus (the marsh of the Decenniæ), outside the Porta Metronia. The double line of portable railway between the Baths and the marsh is already in working order. It is possible that valuable archæological discoveries may be made in the course of this great excavation.

The design of the railing enclosing the Park has been taken from a fresco painting at Pompeii. There will be nearly three miles of it. The entrance gates at la Moletta (ad Septem Vias) have likewise been imitated from those of Hadrian's Villa.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

CONTEMPORARY DEFENCE OF LORD ELGIN'S CONDUCT IN GREECE.

The Belle Assemblée: Being, as the titlepage declares, Bell's Court and Fashionable Magazine, is a periodical now chiefly known by its coloured fashion-plates. In the number for August, 1810, under the heading of 'Varieties, Critical, Literary, and Historical,' and sandwiched between an account of bees and their value and the boarding of an American ship by a British cruiser, is an account of the removal of the Elgin Marbles not hitherto noticed or reprinted which is of interest as showing that before

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Byron's attack on Lord Elgin as "the last, the worst, dull spoiler," bearing "the last poor plunder from a bleeding land," the same criticisms had been already uttered by feebler pens. There is no means of identifying the writer of this brief defence of Lord Elgin,* but in view of the fresh interest in the subject awakened by the recent superb publication of the Marbles by the trustees of the British Museum and the recent rearrangement of the Elgin Room, it is worth while to reprint this contemporary defence of Lord Elgin from the aspersions that were, and by the unthinking too often are, cast on his name :-

THE REMAINS OF ANTIENT ATHENS.

THE REMAINS OF ANTIENT ATHENS.

Having lately seen Lord Elgin censured for removing what remained of antient Athens, a simple narrative of facts may tend, perhaps, to elucidate the matter, and not, we hope, be wholly uninteresting to our readers. When Lord Elgin was appointed Ambassador at Constantinople [in 1799], he conceived that by procuring moulds and drawings of the basso relievos and other parts of the Temples at Athens, the student would be enabled to form a more exact notion of Grecian grandeur and simplicity, than from the mere of the Temples at Athens, the Student would be enabled to form a more exact notion of Grecian grandeur and simplicity, than from the mere measurements he already possessed: impressed with the value of such a conception, if it could be accomplished, he waited on Government, but they declined using the public money. Unwilling to relinquish his plan, Lord Elgin endeavoured to procure attists at his own expence, but with no better success; and almost without hope he sailed to Palermo: here the proposal was enthusiastically received: artists were procured from Rome, Lord Elgin proceeded to Constantinople, and they, under the direction of his Secretary, to Athens. We should think that Lord Elgin would not have had artists to draw and mould for three years, if he had at first intended to bring off the originals. They had no sooner commenced than they found the prejudices of the people tormenting in the extreme: if they erected scaffolds, it was merely an excuse to look in at commenced than they found the prejudices of the people tormenting in the extreme: if they erected scaffolds, it was merely an excuse to look in at their women; if they examined any fragment with an appearance of attention, it contained gold, and some Turk would slily creep up and dash it to pieces before their face, in hope of finding the supposed treasure. About this time Lord Elgin came down to Athens and found the people more reconciled from habit. The Temples being in a ruinous state, it was likely that by excavating near them something might be found worth moulding; he, therefore, bought the house that stood under the Parthenon, pulled it down, and in digging to the rock discovered the fragments of Iupiter [Poseidon] and Minerva; but, at the other end, where many figures had evidently fallen down (at the time, perhaps, the temple was shattered [1687] when the Venetians threw in a bomb, and blew up the magazine the Turks had formed there), he was not equally successful.—On enquiring of the man to whom the house belonged, if he recollected any figures on this spot? with the greatest coolness, he answered, he could have saved them their trouble, for that he had himself pounded them into lime for mortar to build his house with, as they were excellent marble, and that the greatest part of the citadel he could have saved them their trouble, for that he had himself pounded them into lime for mortar to build his house with, as they were excellent marble, and that the greatest part of the citadel was built with mortar procured in the same manner. From this moment it was incumbent on Lord Elgin to save what remained. With such an example of barbarity before him, would he not have deserved the curses of his country, had he neglected to save them? Why should they have met with a better fate than their companions? What a moment of excruciating anxiety! Such an opportunity might never occur again. Yes; but then he would be stripping Athens of all that rendered her yet interesting. Certainly; but was he, for fear of offending the few that might be enabled to visit Athens the little time these exquisite things would be suffered to exist, to neglect the power he now had of placing them in security for ever—of placing them too, where, by their beauty, they might renovate art to its lost purity of grandeur? With a decision for ever to be applauded, he ordered moulding instantly to cease, and began shipping them as quickly as they could be removed without injury. To his energetic resolution is

England indebted for these exquisite productions. Behold, then, after endless anxiety, his Secretary embarked with the reward of his toil. "Vela dabant lacti"; but scarcely had they left the Grecian shores, when the ship struck on a hidden rock, heeled, sunk, and down went in a moment the labour of years; and all that remained of the once beautiful Athens was 'in the deep bosom of the ocean buried.' This was enough to damp men of ordinary minds; but to men of energy difficulties are stimulants. Without a moment's hesitation Lord Elgin began again, and after two additional years of labour, anxiety, and perseverance, all that were wrecked were once more rescued from destruction. Where is there another man who would have conquered so many obstacles? The mere conception of moving such ponderous monuments requires a vigour of mind obstacles? The mere conception of moving such ponderous monuments requires a vigour of mind few men possess. Posterity will do Lord Elgin ample justice, for their beauties will by that time have circulated through the country, and their effects on English art will by that time be perceptible. He deserves, indeed, well of his country, and instead of effectively lamenting that he stripped Athens of what remained, we should rather lament he was not there to strip it sooner, and then, perhaps, some of the most beautiful productions in the world would not have been pounded down for mortar. pounded down for mortar.

Fine Art Gossip.

WE regret to hear as we go to press of the death of the veteran landscape painter Mr. James Aumonier, who succumbed on Wednesday to the effects of an operation. the exception of Mr. Mark Fisher, he was the last of the principal members of the group of English landscape painters which constitutes collectively perhaps the most important illustration of independent artistic activity in the last thirty years, just as the Pre-Raphaelite movement was the most characteristic development of the thirty years before that. Charles, Buxton Knight, Aumonier, and Mr. Fisher were among the principals of the school, which studied the problems of outdoor lighting as a means of space-composition at the same time as the French Impressionists were studying it from a more purely scientific point of view.

It would be interesting to see a collection of Mr. Aumonier's pictures of different periods, though such a show might be difficult to arrange. Perhaps the Royal Academy, to whose exhibitions the deceased painter contributed so much interest, may gracefully reserve him some space in the Winter Exhibition.

WE desire to draw the attention of our readers to the very interesting exhibition of views of London now to be seen at the Guildhall, being a selection from the treasures contained in the Guildhall Library. The exhibits-a small number of coloured aquatints-are arranged in the corridor leading to the Library; and they will be changed from time to time. Those which form this first exhibition are pictures of London as it was in the early nineteenth century: among them Rowlandson's Bird's-eye View of Covent Garden Market, and Gendall's View of St. Paul's Churchyard.

ROBERTS has discovered the identity of the persons represented in Gainsborough's picture known as 'The Morning Walk.' Many interesting biographical particulars concerning them are included in the article he contributes to to-day's Notes and Queries under the title 'The Halletts of Canons.

To-DAY the Mayor, Alderman C. Thomas-Stanford, will open the autumn exhibition of pictures in the Brighton Public Art Galleries. The exhibition will remain open

until the end of the year, and the Corporation issue a well-printed catalogue at the modest price of a penny.

THE NORTH BRITISH ACADEMY OF ARTS is arranging for its members a series of "one-man shows" at the Northumberland Gallery, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The first of these will open on the 16th inst., and will comprise about forty works by Mr. Philip H. Miller. This will be followed by collections by Mr. Haww. Spanes and Mr. C. Goldsborger. Harry Spence and Mr. C. Goldsborough Anderson. These exhibitions should create a good deal of interest in the North.

An exhibition of oil and water-colour paintings and pastels, by members of the G.P.O. Arts Club, will be opened in the Cuming Museum at the Southwark Central Library, Walworth Road, on Thursday, the 19th inst., by the Assistant Postmaster-General, Capt. Cecil Norton, M.P. The exhibition will be open for a month, admission being free.

NEXT Wednesday Messrs. Bell & Sons will publish Mr. Reginald Blomfield's 'History of French Architecture from the Reign of Charles VIII. to the death of Mazarin. The two volumes will contain over 300 illustrations.

The same firm are also bringing out a volume of papers and addresses by Mr. Walter Crane, 'William Morris to Whistler.'

Mr. LEE WARNER'S autumn announcements include 'Portraits of Dante from Giotto to Raffael,' a critical study by Mr. R. T. Holbrook, copiously illustrated after original portraits; and 'Osiris and the original portraits; and 'Osiris and the Egyptian Resurrection,' by Dr. Wallis Budge, 2 vols., with illustrations from Egyptian papyri and monuments.

EXHIBITIONS.

Sat. (Oct. 7).—Autumn Exhibition of Sketches and Pictures, Modern-Gallery.

Mand Earl's Pictures, 'The Power of the Dog,' Private View, Fine-Art Society's Gallery.

Six William Eden's Water-Colours, 168. New Bond Street.

Bit William Eden's Water-Colours, 168. New Bond Street.

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Bit Water-Colours Hustering View Colours Hustaring:

Modern Society of Portrat Parinters, Exhibition of Pictures and Drawings, Private View, Fine-Art Society's Gallery.

Mr. Arthur Rackham's Water-Colours Hustaring: Signification of Pictures and 'The Twilight of the Gods, 'Private View, Laicoster Galleries. urs by Douglas Fox-Pitt and Walter Taylor, Carfax

MUSIC

Some Forerunners of Italian Opera. By W. J. Henderson. (John Murray.)—This interesting book offers a "short study of the lyric drama in Italy prior to the birth of opera." The latter virtually dates from the Renaissance, but our author remarks, and truly, that not only "the modern entertainment called opera is a child of the Roman Catholic Church," but also that the source of the lyric drama can be traced much further back than the foundation of Christianity. He starts, however, from the liturgical dramas of the Catholic Church. The strong dramatic element in the sacrifice of the Redeemer soon developed its various scenes into real dramatic per-formances in the church for the instruction of the people; and in these priests naturally took part. The music closely resembled the Gregorian chants, as may be seen from one of the oldest of these dramas, the 'Vierges sages et Vierges folles,' preserved in the Paris National Library.

At an early period outdoor performances of the Passion were given; while in the one

^{*} Mr. A. H. Smith, to whom the paper was read, writes o me that it is on much the same lines as the 'Memorandum to me that it is on much the same lines as the 'Memorandum on the Earl of Eigin's Pursuits in Greece' of 1310, and suggests that it was either based on it, or written by the same authors, Hamilton and Hunt. The account is far more vivid and detailed than that of the official

[†] According to the Memorandum published at Edinburgh in the same year, the expense proved prohibitive.

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at the festivities connected with the marriage of Charles VI. and Isabella of Bavaria (end of the fourteenth century) the number of personages and the elaborate machinery show how the secular element was encroaching on the liturgical drama, the aim of which was purely devotional. A curious illustration of this tendency may be mentioned, viz., the ballet representing the wise and foolish virgins which Brantôme saw performed at the Court of Queen Elizabeth. Another step was the introduction of popular melodies in lieu of the earlier chants, and the mingling of sacred and secular elements. A description of the scenery at performances in Florence, on St. John's Day in 1444, of the delivery of the Law to Moses, &c., mentions an ingenious device: frames covered with wool, and lighted up, to represent clouds, amid which various saints appeared. Iron supports bore up children dressed as angels, and the whole was made to move slowly on the backs of bearers concealed behind the frames.

The birthplace of the secular drama was the Marquisate of Mantua, which for wellnigh four centuries was governed by the Gonzagas. Mr. Henderson gives most interesting details connected with musical life there, all of which help us to understand the atmosphere, so to speak, in which was produced the 'Orfeo' of Angelo Poliziano, to which a large portion of the book is devoted. This work is supposed, and with fair reason, to have been produced in 1472; anyhow, it could not have been later than 1483, for it was given in honour of Cardinal Francesco Gonzaga, who died in that year.

'In Mr. Krehbiel's article on 'Opera' in the new edition of Grove's 'Dictionary of Music and Musicians' we read that "it is certain that great part of Poliziano's 'Orfeo' was set to music of some kind.' Not a scrap of that music has been preserved, yet Mr. Henderson tries to show-we may, indeed, say succeeds in showing—what portions had music, and of what kind. We must now in a few words give an outline of his

A stage direction in the early version of the poem describes Orfeo "singing to his Songs for one voice were in vogue lyre. already in the time of Dante, and frottole, the popular part-songs in Poliziano's day, were arranged as solos, with reduction in simplest form of the other parts for lute or some other instrument. The interest of Orfeo's solo consists in the fact that it occurs in a drama before the monodic period of the Renaissance. The two choral numbers, Mr. Renaissance. Henderson believes, were in the form of the Italian frottola, the second being a ballata, or dance song. The Italian madrigal, he points out, had not been well developed at the time of the production of this 'Orfeo.' Our author also discusses the "orchestra" used at the performance, but on this we must not dwell. 'Orfeo,' as already mentioned, was produced at Mantua, and it was in that very city that Monteverde produced his 'Orfeo' in 1607, at which time he was Maestro di Cappella. He had been in the service of the Duke from a very early age. One cannot help wondering whether he heard a performance of Poliziano's 'Orfeo,' or saw any of the music.

Our author in an early part of his book says: "The non-existence of the drama in the Middle Ages is one of the strikingly significant deficiencies of the period." Yet it is not very difficult to understand; and Mr. Henderson himself helps to explain it. The Church, as he reminds us, made the first movement towards the abolition of the drama by placing its ban on the plays handed down from the Greeks and the Romans, but it supplied dramas of a different | kind, performed in churches, and later on al fresco. Moreover the first public theatre was not built until 1637.

Musical Gossip.

SUMURUN, a wordless musical play in nine Tableaux from "Tales of the Arabian Nights," by Friedrich Freksa, music by Victor Hollaender, and costumes, scenery, etc by Herr Ernst Stern, was presented by Professor Max Reinhardt for the first time Professor Max Remhardt for the first time in its entirety at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday evening. The story is one of love, of passion, and of tragedy, and these were well depicted by the action, by gesture and by facial expression. The Sheik, Herr Conradi; his son, Herr Rothauser; Nur-al-Din, Herr Lota, the Hynchbauser; Nur-Herrfeld. Herr Lotz; the Hunchback, Herr Herzfeld; and Sumurun, Fraulein Von Derp, the chief personages, all deserve praise. It was an intesesting spectacle, and yet one followed it with mixed feelings. Realism was the chief feature on the stage and the scenes were indeed very real and cleverly set forth. Of the nine scenes the most strikwere 'Nur al-Din's shop' and 'The Harem,' though in the latter the obvious striving after the atmosphere of voluptiousness destroyed the effect. Not only the music but also the rendering of it proved disappointing. Although there were attempts at Eastern colour, it was in the main Western, and, moreover, with few exceptions, conventional. However, as some diffidence in criticism may well be felt in judging such a new departure by a first-night performance, we propose to see the play again, when we may find it necessary to revise this first impression.

THE first of the two chamber concerts given by Messrs. Harold Bauer, Fritz Kreisler, and Pablo Casals took place last Tuesday afternoon. All three artists enjoy a high reputation as solo performers; whether, however, they would be equally successful in concerted music was open to question. For an artist to keep his own individuality within restraint, also to listen as much to what his associates are doing as to his own playing, is no easy matter; more-over the greater the artist, the greater the difficulty. On Tuesday the performances by the three artists dispelled all doubt as to their powers of interpreting Beethoven's Trio in B flat, Schumann's in D minor, and Tschaikowsky's in a minor. Technically there was no fault, and in addition the ensemble was excellent. The reading of the Beethoven was thoroughly good, although we could not but feel that there was more heart and soul in that of the Schumann Trio. Queen's Hall was crowded.

MADAME CARREÑO gave the first of two pianoforte recitals at Queen's Hall on Wednesday afternoon. In Chopin's B minor Sonata the two middle movements were delightfully rendered—the Scherzo with due delicacy, the Largo with beauty of tone, and expression. The Finale was spirited, though there was a sense of effort, as if the pianist was suffering from fatigue. Of Schumann's 6 minor Sonata an excellent interpretation was given. MacDowell's 'Keltic' Sonata followed. The Allegretto is less interesting; and the Finale, in spite of clever writing and an impressive ending, is not convincing. Madame Carreño's interpretation of the work was admirable, and by way of encore she played Schumann's Vogel als Prophet.'

'THE LOVE MILLS,' a comic opera, libretto by Messrs. Frantz Fonson and Fernand Wicheler, music by M. A. van

Oost, with additional numbers by the conductor, Mr. Louis Hillier, and English version and lyrics by Mr. Leslie Stiles, was produced at the Globe Theatre on Tuesday evening, and, it may be said, with fair success. For there is plenty of fun on the stage, and plenty of bright, attractive music; moreover the piece is effectively staged. have said fairly successful, because the plot is little more than a framework to enclose, as it were, the songs and concerted numbers. With due application of the pruning-knife, the piece has a good chance of success; at present, interest occasionally flags.

As regards the performance, a new-comer, Miss Nan Stuart, as the innkeeper's wife, sang and acted with skill and charm, while Mr. Leslie Stiles, who impersonated the husband, made the most of his busy part. Mr. George Barrett was very amusing as a constable, but a little less of his fun would have proved even more effective. Of the songs by Mr. Hillier, 'Dot and Spot' and 'Angling' were the most taking.

M. Albert Carré will celebrate the M. Albert Carre will celebrate the centenary of the birth of Ambroise Thomas at the Paris Opéra Comique next Thursday by giving 'Mignon' with new staging and costumes, and with the following strong cast: Mlles Brohly (Mignon) and Nicot-Vauchelet (Philine), and M. Francell (Wilhelm-Meister). One act from 'Le Caïd' will else being the control of the c will also be given.

M. FERRUCCIO BUSONI will celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Franz Liszt by giving at Berlin six concerts, consisting entirely of the composer's music, on the following dates: October 31st, November 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, and December 1st. Among the pieces is a transcription of the 'Mephisto' Waltz. Liszt wrote it first of all as a solo, then as a duet, and finally scored it for orchestra; and Busoni's arrangement was made from the score. It would be interest-ing to include Liszt's solo and Busoni's transcription in the same programme.

MR. CHRISTOPHER WELCH has written a study of 'The Recorder and other Flutes in relation to Literature. The volume, which Mr. Henry Frowde will publish shortly contains 112 illustrations.

Messes. Treherne will publish 'A Short History of English Music,' by Mr. Ernest

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Concert, 3, Albert Hall.
Sunday Jocisty, 3:36, Queen's Hall.
Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
Sar. Fromenade Concerts, 8, Queen's Hall.
Sar. 'Pagliacot', 2 and 8, Hippodrome.
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DRAMA

THE TRIPLE BILL AT THE LITTLE THEATRE.

At a series of matinées which will not interfere with the run of 'Fanny's First Play,' now nearing its two hundredth performance, Miss Lillah McCarthy is providing a very enjoyable programme. Light it might also be called, were not first place in it, taken by Meredith's fragment of a in it taken by Meredith's fragment of a comedy, 'The Sentimentalists,' which calls for some concentration on the part of the listener.

A second hearing of the two scenes does not incline us to modify the judgment already

passed in these columns as to the artificiality passed in these columns as to the artificiality of the author's style and his lack of the sense of the theatre. Fancy, wit, and poetic turns his dialogue has, but not emotional sincerity, even in its love-scenes, or directness. In his constant struggle to avoid the obvious, Meredith employs stilted phrases, far-fetched conceits, and roundabout expressions, which cause him to drift into expressions, which cause him to drift into preciosity even in a play which is in part a satire at the expense of preciosity. The lover's courtship of the prim young widow Astrea is lyrical without ringing true, because the lad rarely, if ever, gives simple utterance to his feelings, but twists his words as though he were indulging in a poetic exercise. Similarly, old Homeware, Astrea's guardian, avoids simplicity of speech, and guardian, avoids simplicity of speech, and resorts to pompous circumlocution.

Nor is Meredith to be excused on the score that English folk in the fifties used a more formal diction, even when talking privately, than is customary to-day. Thackeray's dialogue, at its most formal, never gives the same impression of painful elaboration. The fault is in the author, who, great master though he was, hankered after the unfamiliar word or order of words, the fantastic thought, the sophisticated sentiment.

Looked at as a mere curiosity in artificial drama, 'The Sentimentalists' can afford a certain amount of pleasure, partly because a certain amount of pleasure, partly because the staging brings up memories of Early Victorian costumes, partly because its very preciosity demands some dexterity on the part of its interpreters. There is only one prominent member of the original cast in the revival, Miss Mary Jerrold, whose Lyra is as dainty a rogue in porcelain as heretofore. Miss McCarthy's Astræa is at once more imposing and more affected than Miss Fay Davis's. Mr. William Farren's Homeware has more of the mannerisms of senility than the text warrants, but is at any rate than the text warrants, but is at any rate a character-study. Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Arden puts as much fervour into his part as the author permits.

The other two pieces are great fun. Mr. Granville Barker's farce 'Rococo,' which gives a droll picture of a family squabble over an heirloom and the rough-and-tumble to which it leads, richly deserves its place; while Mr. Barrie's eccentric little comedy 'The Twelve-Pound Look' needs no fresh commendation. In the latter the actressmanageress now assumes—very successfully—the character of the typist which Miss Lena Ashwell "created."

Dramatic Gossip.

MR. BERNARD SHAW seems destined to become a popular playwright at last. Always able to count on the support of a select minority, he is now in the way of conquering the larger public. So it would appear from the reception which his diverting comedy, 'Man and Superman,' receives at the Criterion. It is played to the accom-paniment of bursts of laughter, just as though it were the most rollicking of farces; and yet the same cynical philosophy of sex, the same insolence of wit, are there as once irritated our playgoing conventionalists. They must be getting used to the Shavian manner. At any rate, every point now goes home, every jest is caught up and hailed with amusement.

A good deal of the credit for this state of affairs must be set down to the account of Mr. Loraine, who has started management

with a revival of the piece. The buoyancy and virility of his acting in the part of that very modern and theoretical Don Juan, John Tanner, are irresistible. So fast is the pace at which the actor takes the hero's long speeches that their length almost escapes notice; such dash marks his performance that Tanner's wildest audacities of speech seem to reflect nothing more than the exuberant egoism of youth. Here is the ideal philanderer of Mr. Shaw's conception eloquent, hectoring, impudent—the man who fights against, and yet plunges more and more deeply into, sex-entanglement.

It certainly needs a spirited Tanner to atone for the spiritless Ann of Miss Pauline Chase. This young actress's enunciation is remarkably distinct, and she makes a pretty picture always, but she in no way realizes either the petulance or the self-assertiveness of Mr. Shaw's heroine. Ann could never be supposed to typify the primitive woman seeking after her prey—man. Fortunately, accomplished players such as Miss Florence Haydon, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Ernest Mainwaring, and especially Mr. Gwenn in his delightful portrait of Straker, the chauffeur, collers Mr. Lorsing's lead and and creditation in the contract of the con follow Mr. Loraine's lead and emulate his vivacity, with the result that 'Man and Superman' furnishes one of the brightest entertainments that can be had just now at a London theatre.

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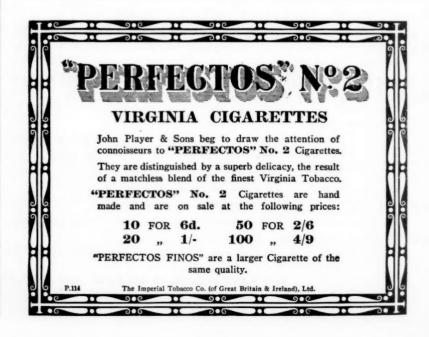
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